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Inter-Arab Affairs

Foreigners Prepare To Evacuate From Iraq, Kuwait

NC0708114690 Paris AFP in English 1141 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Amman, Aug 7 (AFP)—Preparations are underway to evacuate foreign nationals from Iraq and Kuwait, a Western diplomatic source said here Tuesday. An official spokesman confirmed that Jordan had agreed to "facilitate" the departure of "non-essential" U.S. embassy staff members in Iraq and Kuwait, but he did not elaborate.

According to the diplomatic source, the United States government has asked "non-essential" members of its embassies in both countries to leave and had advised its citizens there to do likewise. It was not immediately clear how and when the evacuations would take place, particularly as Iraq closed its side of the border with Jordan immediately after the August 2 invasion of Kuwait.

The U.S. State Department has said it is looking into reports that about a dozen U.S. nationals among a group of 28 Americans rounded up by Iraqi troops in Kuwait had turned up in Baghdad. The Americans were among at least 200 foreigners picked up by the Iraqis in Kuwait and bussed to undisclosed locations Monday.

The foreigners included British and French nationals, according to London and Paris. There are some 3,800 U.S. citizens living in Kuwait as well as about 3,000 Britons, 300 West Germans and 250 French residents. Foreigners make up more than half of Kuwait's population of 1.8 million.

Envoy Denies 'Crisis' in Iraqi-Egyptian Relations

JN0608132190 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Mustafa Bakri dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] Jordan, Yemen, and the PLO are currently exerting immense efforts to contain the growing tension in Iraqi-Egyptian relations. It has been revealed that Egyptian-Iraqi contacts were recently conducted through diplomatic channels. In these contacts, the Iraqi Government said that the Egyptian role was acceptable and had influence on Iraq at the beginning of the crisis, and that Iraq was willing to accept the Egyptian view on a final solution to the dispute with Kuwait. Kuwaiti officials, however, have rejected this formula. During these contacts, moreover, Cairo expressed its rejection of Iraqi military intervention in Kuwait's affairs, and demanded that matters be put right.

In the same context, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd-al- Majid received today Dr. Nabil Najm al-Takriti, Iraqi ambassador in Cairo, and discussed with him the latest developments in the Gulf. Meanwhile, in a statement to our radio, the Iraqi ambassador denied the existence of any crisis in Iraqi-Egyptian relations.

Finally, Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat has arrived in Alexandria from Baghdad, carrying assurances from President Saddam Husayn to President Mubarak concerning the Iraqi commitment to withdraw its forces from Kuwait.

Ibrahim Arrives With Saddam Message to Mubarak

JN0708130490 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Mustafa Bakri dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] Iraq's second-in-command 'Izzat Ibrahim arrived in Alexandria today to hold important talks with President Husni Mubarak on developments in the Gulf. Sources said that the Iraqi envoy is carrying a message from President Saddam Husayn to President Mubarak in which the Iraqi president asks Egypt to help prepare the regional and international atmospheres for completing the process of Iraqi troop withdrawal from Kuwait without any significant obstacles.

Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat paved the way yesterday during his talks with President Mubarak before the visit of the Iraqi second-in-command. Informed Palestinian sources told our radio that, during his talks yesterday with President Mubarak, 'Arafat concentrated on preventing any foreign intervention in the region. This should take place through practical and defined measures that guarantee the withdrawal of Iraqi forces to international borders. This latter step should take place within the framework of Iraq's demands of support for the Iraqi economy being met.

In this context, the Palestinian side believes it is necessary to hold an urgent Arab summit to discuss these issues, to be followed by a mini-summit in which Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Palestine will participate. Its task will be to establish the final solutions for the Iraqi-Kuwaiti dispute.

President Mubarak reaffirmed during the talks the need to provide the necessary conditions to make the summit a success, primarily Iraq's approval to reinstate the legitimate state in Kuwait and that Kuwait be a principle party in all the meetings of the planned Arab summits.

Al-Baz Reports Mubarak, Arab Leaders Discussions

NC0608132490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1249 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Alexandria, 6 Aug (MENA)—Dr. Usamah al-Baz, first Foreign Ministry under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, has stated that President Mubarak is currently engaged in a series of intensive contacts with a number of his brother Arab leaders. The purpose of these contacts, he added, is to explore the available options in order to find a way out of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti crisis.

Al-Baz made the statement after seeing Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat off.

'Arafat Leaves Jeddah Without Meeting Saudi King

JN0708102690 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] An informed Palestinian source in Riyadh said that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Jeddah this morning without meeting with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

The source said that 'Arafat, who is mediating to settle the Gulf crisis, is scheduled to leave for Vienna to participate in the funeral of former Chancellor Bruno Kreisky before returning to Saudi Arabia to hold talks with Saudi officials.

Libyan-Palestinian Peace Plan for Crisis Detailed

NC0708124590 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1155 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Tunis, 7 Aug (MENA)—Highly informed Arab sources in Tunis have emphasized that the Libyan-Palestinian peace plan to resolve the Kuwaiti-Iraqi conflict is made up of six points.

The same sources told MENA that the plan stipulates that Kuwait declares its acceptance of the principle of paying compensations to Iraq, that Iraq agrees to delineate its common borders with Kuwait, that Kuwait agrees to lease the two islands of Warbah and Bubiyan to Iraq, and that Iraq accepts to lease the two islands.

The plan also stipulates that the two sides declare their agreement to replace the Iraqi troops with a Libyan-Palestinian joint force and that the Iraqi and Kuwait sides start negotiations to sign an agreement as soon as possible for resolving their differences.

It was announced in Tripoli that the Libyan-Palestinian peace plan, agreed upon by Libyan Revolution Leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Yasir 'Arafat, will spare the Arabs the need to hold an Arab summit to resolve the Kuwaiti-Iraqi conflict.

Syrian-Jordanian Committee Meetings Postponed

JN0408051790 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Text] Damascus—A responsible source in Damascus today announced that the ordinary session of meetings by the Higher Syrian-Jordanian Joint Committee, scheduled to begin in Damascus tomorrow, Saturday, has been postponed in view of the emergency situation in the Arabian Gulf region following the Iraqi troops' entry into Kuwaiti territories. The source said that a new date will be set for those meetings by mutual agreement between the two parties.

Islamic Affairs

Islamic Conference Issues Recommendations

NC0508163790 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1100 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 5 Aug (MENA)—The Islamic foreign ministers conference has hailed the Palestinian people's intifadah and strongly denounced the Israeli policy which is built on continued occupation and expansion and the denial of the Palestinian people's national rights.

This came in the recommendations made by the conference during its final session, which was held today under the chairmanship of Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

After its closed final session this afternoon, the conference reiterated that the Palestinian problem is the Muslims' primary concern, representing the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict. It also stressed that a just and comprehensive peace can only be established in the region after the complete and unconditional withdrawal of the Israelis from all the Palestinian territories.

The conference voiced support for efforts being made to hold an international conference on peace in the Middle East, with the participation of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and all the parties concerned, including the PLO. The conference also expressed its regret over the suspension of the U.S.-PLO dialogue, and called on the United States to resume, strengthen, or develop that dialogue.

The conference asserted that the holy city of Jerusalem is part of the occupied Palestinian territories and the capital of the state of Palestine, and that any harm done to its political status would be a blatant violation of international laws and resolutions. The conferees strongly condemned the U.S. Congress resolution which states that Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Israel.

In their recommendations, the conferees called on the Islamic countries group at the United Nations to coordinate with the Nonaligned Movement and other parties to confront the attempts being made to repeal UN Resolution 3379 on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination. They also called on them to arrange a seminar on the sidelines of the UN sessions. Internationally known figures would be invited to participate in this seminar in order to explain the dimensions of Israel's racist philosophy and policies, which represent the actual embodiment of Zionist thinking. The conference also warned of the dangers of comprehensive cooperation between the racist regimes in Tel Aviv and Pretoria, particularly in the field of nuclear arms.

The conference expressed deep concern over the situation in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon and called for continuing to give the necessary help to enable the camps to be repaired and ensure the daily needs of their Palestinian inhabitants. The conference also

expressed its appreciation to the EC countries for their positive role on holding an international conference for peace in the Middle East and for their supportive stands concerning the Palestinian issue.

The conference underlined its support for Lebanon's independence and its respect for Lebanon's sovereignty over its own territories, and underlined the need for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Lebanese territories.

The conference called on the Higher Tripartite Committee to continue its efforts to implement the al-Ta'if agreement and expressed its readiness to support this committee's efforts, the Lebanese Government's statement regarding the implementation of the national accord document, and the establishment of an international fund to assist in the development and reconstruction of Lebanon. The conference called on the member states to adhere to the implementation of the rules of the Islamic boycott of the Zionist enemy, demanding that the states which have not yet established Israel boycott offices to do so.

The conference strongly condemned Israel for continuing to change the legal status of the occupied Syrian Arab Golan and its attempt to impose Israeli identity cards and citizenship on Arab residents. The conference renewed its support for an international conference under UN auspices to define the meaning of terrorism and to make a distinction between it and the struggle of peoples for national liberation. The conference condemned Israel for refusing to abandon its policy of possessing nuclear weapons and refusing to join the treaty banning the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Regarding fraternal Sudan, the conference affirmed its support for the recommendations of the committee for conducting national dialogue on peace issues. It appealed to all the member states to provide moral and material support so that Sudan can safeguard its identity and national unity.

Regarding the current developments in East Europe and their effects on the Islamic world, the conference's recommendations called for the crystallization of the Islamic trend to draw up an integrated strategy to deal with these developments and to form an ad hoc committee to study the international changes and their effects on the Islamic states' causes. It also called for continued efforts by the Islamic states to cooperate with the European and Arab states on international issues to contribute to the achievement of peace and respect of human rights and international legitimacy.

The conference also issued a number of cultural and social resolutions and recommendations pertaining to revitalizing coordination of the Islamic action committee and the expansion of its membership, and the broadening of the scope of cooperation between the Islamic organization on the one hand and the United Nations and international and regional organizations, on the other.

The conference called for broadening the scope of existing political, economic, cultural, and social cooperation and coordination between the ICO and the Arab League. It also called for the continued intensification of the contacts with the OAU for the conclusion of an agreement for cooperation and coordination between the two organizations to serve their mutual interests.

The conference welcomed the ICO secretary general's initiative regarding the establishment of a committee to coordinate activity among the various Islamic institutions working in the field of Islamic call. The conference also recommended that the Islamic cultural heritage be safeguarded and called for supporting a number of Islamic universities and cultural institutions in some African, Arab, and Asian states.

The conference praised the Afghan people's heroic struggle to liberate their homeland and their support for the Afghan mujahidin to restore Afghanistan's status as an Islamic, independent, and nonaligned country. The conference expressed support for the Afghan mujahidin's efforts to establish a broad-based government to enable the Afghan refugees to return to their homeland and the Afghan people to exercise their right to choose the political, economic, and social systems that suit them, free from foreign interference. The conference decided to continue the generous humanitarian aid to the Afghan refugees and to take action for their return home, and rehabilitate them in Afghanistan in cooperation with the Islamic Republics of Iran and Pakistan.

The conference underlined its full support for the rights of the Turkish Muslim minority in Bulgaria. It expressed indignation for this minority's continued deprivation of legal guarantees and practical measures that ensure total respect for its religious, language, and cultural rights. The conference expressed its satisfaction with the ongoing dialogue between Turkey and Bulgaria, hoping that it will end the suffering of the Turkish Muslim minority in Bulgaria. The conference called on all Islamic countries to continue their support for the Turkish minority's just cause and to encourage the Bulgarian leadership to take and implement all the necessary measures to exhort the Bulgarian Government to put an end to the Muslims's suffering.

The conference reasserted the territorial integrity of the Federal and Islamic Republic of the Comoros and its sovereignty over the Islamic island of Mayotte. In its recommendations, the conference appealed to the ICO member states to use their influence collectively and individually with France to quickly hold negotiations with the Republic of the Comoros on the basis of the national unity of this country and its territorial integrity. The conference called on the ICO general secretariat to hold contacts with the French authorities to convey its worries about this problem. It called on the French Government to hasten decisive negotiations with the Republic of the Comoros and with officials in the Island of Mayotte.

The conference emphasized that the Walvis Bay and the islands surrounding Namibia constitute an indivisible part of Namibia's territory whose borders extend to the Orange River. It appealed to all ICO member states and the international community to give the necessary aid to the state of Namibia to bolster its national establishments and build its economy. It praised the countries that gave aid to South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO] during its election campaign as well as the countries that contributed to the UN fund for Namibia's independence. It praised the heroic struggle waged by the Namibian people under SWAPO's leadership, their sole real representative, that confidently led to their country's independence and stability.

The conference condemned the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait and rejected all the consequences of it. It demanded the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Kuwaiti territory and their return to their positions before 1 August in accordance with the principles of the ICO charter. It called on both states to maintain good neighborliness and refrain from changing the political system of the other by force and to respect its sovereignty and independence. It expressed support for Kuwait's legal government under the amir of the state, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

The conference expressed satisfaction with the positive development in the situation between Iraq and Iran after the exchange of messages between their Presidents and the latest meeting between their foreign ministers in July, 1990, which resulted in direct negotiations between the two parties under UN supervision.

The conference welcomed the initiatives taken by certain Arab countries to keep the Middle East a nuclear-free zone. It stressed the Islamic nation's right to use science and technology to achieve economic and social development. It called on the industrial countries to facilitate technology transfer.

The conference praised the Moro Front's role in Philippines, which expressed its preparedness to hold a dialogue with the Philippine Government under ICO supervision to reach a just and final solution to the problem of the Muslims in the southern Philippines.

The conference called for a peaceful settlement of the problem of Jammu and Kashmir in accordance with the UN resolutions and the Simla agreement. It expressed satisfaction with the start of dialogue between India and Pakistan.

The conference condemned the continuous U.S. threats against Libya, particularly the ("trade) embargo. It expressed solidarity with the Libyan people to safeguard their independence, unity, and territorial integrity. It voiced support for Libya's efforts to obtain compensation for its losses during the colonization of the Libyan people.

The conference expressed hope that the Turkish and Greek communities in Cyprus will reach a satisfactory solution through cooperation with the UN secretary general toward an agreement providing for a federation combining both communities and a settlement safeguarding Cyprus independence. It called for removing the obstacles placed on the path of negotiations by either party.

Regarding the economic aspects, the conference requested the ICO organs to make periodical, in-depth, and detailed studies on the economic and social effects of the establishment of a unified European market on the Islamic world in order to work out ideas conducive to overcoming the difficulties arising as a result. It called for formulating new strategies within the framework of the existing working plan. It recommended that the 16th Islamic summit scheduled to convene in Dakar, Senegal, issue a new authorization for the standing committee on economic and trade cooperation regarding this issue.

On Africa's foreign debts, the conference expressed its deep concern about the negative social impact resulting form the compulsory implementation of the programs on structural readjustment. It stressed the need for an international order through negotiations among all members of the international community. It recommended that all international forums urgently examine the issues of the transfer of resources, debts, trade, funds, and financing.

The conference expressed appreciation for certain member states and for the Islamic Development Bank for their technical, financial, and food aid to underdeveloped countries. The conference expressed support for the PLO's program to develop the Palestinian agricultural and industrial sectors in light of the vital importance of bolstering the Palestinian people and their intifadah.

The conference called on the member states to offer humanitarian aid to the Chadian people who are suffering from the effects of war, drought, floods, and agricultural pests. It called for emergency aid to Bangladesh and Sudan. The conference hailed the efforts to implement the resolutions on communications passed at the first ministerial meeting held in Turkey in 1988. It noted that the second ministerial meeting will be held in (?Bandung) in July 1991, and that the fourth ministerial meeting on food security and agricultural development will be held in Cairo on 7 March 1991, along with the 15th annual meeting of the board of directors of the Islamic Development Bank.

The conference exhorted the member states to participate in the fourth and fifth Islamic trade fairs that will be held in Tunis 4-15 October 1990 and in Sudan in 1992. The conference welcomed the offer made by Egypt to convene the eighth meeting of the board of directors of the central banks and monetary establishments in Cairo in February 1991.

'Abd-al-Majid Addresses ICO Closing Session

NC0508162790 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 5 Aug (MENA)—Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, [Egyptian] deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has

emphasized the need to settle international disputes amicably without recourse to the spirit of enmity and conflicts.

In a speech at the closing session of the 19th Islamic states' foreign ministers conference, Dr. 'Abd al-Majid said that the Islamic world enters the 21st century surrounded by problems of past centuries. He said: Our responsibility to our people is to resolve these problems so that we can deal with a new era and a new world.

The following is the text of Dr. 'Abd al-Majid's speech:

Your highnesses and excellencies the foreign ministers of the Islamic states, your excellency secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO]. Gentlemen, members of the delegations, and guests.

In the name of God, the Merciful and Compassionate, prayers and peace on the most honorable messenger our master Muhammad, God's servant and messenger.

After a week of continuous and serious work by the committees and after profoundly and extremely significant debates and speeches that revealed eagerness and zealousness to cement Islamic solidarity and to crystallize joint stands regarding all the issues and questions that concern the Islamic nation, this evening we hold the closing session of the 19th Islamic States' foreign ministers conference in Cairo which is the seat of the holy al-Azhar, capital of 1,000 minarets, and the beacon of Islam throughout the ages.

Egypt has very proudly hosted this conference out of its eagerness to unite the Islamic nation and, through cooperation among all the member states, advance it toward a better, brighter, and more secure future, and so that this immortal nation may live in security and reassurance first with itself and then with the outside world. We have all agreed that the outside world is experiencing transformations and changes that sooner or later will have repercussions on the destiny of the Islamic peoples—a matter that requires all of us to stand in one line to preserve our nation, maintain our independence, and secure the appropriate circumstances to proceed forward in the battles of comprehensive development that our peoples are waging so that our nation may assume the position that its heritage and glorious past merit.

Our conference has achieved a sensible and realistic strategy for addressing the changes East Europe has experienced, so as to maintain the ties of friendship between our peoples and the peoples of that area to the mutual benefit of the two sides. This has been achieved within the framework of our adherence to freedom, democracy, and the principles of human rights.

Brothers in Islam.

We have achieved here together the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam. It is an important document, and we must disseminate it and explain it to the world as widely as possible, particularly in universities, teaching and cultural centers, in order to prove to the world that Islam adheres to human rights like all countries do, that human rights are an indivisible part of Islam's cultural heritage, and that it is one of the pillars of Islam.

We wage battles for security, peace, and development along with our great responsibility to preserve our Islamic identity without being isolated or stopping a creative and fruitful interaction with the outside world for the sake of humanity's prosperity and for the sake of having a Muslim being who is enthusiastic about his religion but without fanaticism or extremism and who is open to the outside world without being dazzled or biased.

Your highnesses and excellencies the foreign ministers.
Your excellency the ICO secretary general.
Members.

We are going to enter the 21st century in a decade in which the Islamic world is still living with the problems of past centuries. Our great responsibilities before our peoples, dear brothers in Islam, is to emerge from these problems and crises and gather all our strength and capability to deal with a new epoch that is taking us, whether we like it or not, to a new world where distances are getting shorter, where the tempo of intellectual and cultural interaction within humanity is increasing, and where science is becoming the master of all matters of life. It is a world that is seething with successive and interlocking revolutions in communications and technology. Our great responsibility is not to let our peoples down in this challenge.

Disparities of views and differences in concepts are natural matters in the life of peoples and nations. With its sublime teachings, Islam was the leader in settling disputes between Muslims or with others through peaceful and cordial means, refraining from killing, shedding blood, and violating sanctities, honor, and lands. In our master Mohammad, God's prayers and peace be upon him, we have the best example in this and in various matters of our lives. The comprehensive and important speech which President Muhammad Husni Mubarak delivered at the opening session of our 19th conference was clear and frank in stressing the need for resolving our disputes through cordial means and away from the spirit of hostility and conflicts. The nation of Islam is called on today, in this age of international relaxation and detente, to be committed irrevocably and totally and regardless of any justifications or pretexts to the principle of resolving any disputes or conflicts through cordial and peaceful means and not through fighting. If we deviate from this principle, which is above any other one, no one of us will have peace or security and our resources and potentials will be dissipated in futile and useless conflicts. No peace will prevail, no solidarity will remain, and no development will be achieved in the absence of adherence to this principle.

Your highnesses and excellencies the foreign ministers.
Your excellency the secretary general.
Members of the delegations.

We must prepare from now on to enter with complete self-confidence and with a responsible, persevering,

untiring, and unwavering work into a world that is new in thinking, spirit, and practice.

The nation of Islam had a shining glory and a resplendent civilization. We must use its glorious heritage to inspire us in all that helps us proceed with the nation of Islam toward a future where peace, tranquility, and peace prevail, where prosperity spreads, and where freedoms and the spirit of magnanimity reign. Let us be a people who if they say something they do it, if they do something they do it faithfully, and if they are faithful then God Almighty will accept it. God's peace and blessings be on you.

Palestinian Affairs

Islamic Front Claims Killing of Israeli Youths

JN0708103790 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] News agencies say that the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Palestine in a telephone call to AFP today claimed responsibility for killing two Israeli youths whose bodies were discovered yesterday in a valley north of Jerusalem. A spokesman for the front, who declined to reveal his identity, said that the front's followers operating in the occupied Arab territory carried out the operation.

Jibril Condemns 'Arafat Role in Lebanon Fighting

JN3107194690 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1630 GMT 31 Jul 90

["Text" of statement by Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, PFLP-GC, "on the ongoing battles in Iqlim al-Tuffah;" date not given]

[Text] We strongly condemn the crazy war in Iqlim al-Tuffah, because the Zionist enemy, imperialism, Arab reactionaries, and schemes of capitulation are the only ones to benefit from this war. The continuation of these battles in Iqlim al-Tuffah largely exhaust the struggle and combat action against the Zionist enemy and its agents.

Those who are deluded by and run after the ghost of the reactionary American solution in Lebanon and Palestine should be aware that the United States continually engages in tricks to escalate the fighting in Lebanon in order to destroy the morale and entity of the strugglers and fighters against the Zionist presence and occupation in southern Lebanon. We say: Enough of paying bills for nothing.

The interference of 'Arafat and his mercenaries in Iqlim al-Tuffah under the pretext of disengagement, protecting southern Lebanon's Arabism, and safeguarding the camps in the south cannot deceive our people.

'Arafat was never concerned about Lebanon's land and people; he has always kindled the conflicts and fighting among Palestinians or Lebanese. 'Arafat's history is evidence; it is full of it. 'Arafat and his mercenaries say that they are concerned about the Arabism of southern Lebanon. We would like to ask: How can 'Arafat be concerned about the Arabism of southern Lebanon? Can't he see with his own eyes the Zionist flag flying a few kilometers to the east of Sidon? Since 1982, he has made no move. He ceased armed struggle many years ago; he accepted the role of policeman to prevent operations against the enemy; he even fought against all those who pursued armed struggle.

Will he who wants to defend Lebanon's Arabism accept to fight against the mujahidin who battle the Zionist enemy? The enemy, rather than the friend, is a witness to the mujahidin's fighting. He who wants to defend Lebanon's Arabism should have defended Palestine's Arabism instead of recognizing the Zionist enemy's control over 80 percent of Palestinian territory. He who wants to defend Lebanon's Arabism should not have followed the program of capitulation and defeat and agree to divide the Palestinian people and destroy their national cause.

'Arafat claims that by interfering in Iqlim al-Tuffah war he wants to protect our camps in the south. Is he not the one who left Lebanon in 1982 and left our people defenseless and an easy target for the beasts? Did 'Arafat not take part in the destructive wars of the camps in 1985 in which thousands were killed and wounded in Sabra, Shatila, Burj al-Barajinah, and al-Rashidiyah, and tens of thousands of our people emigrated to European countries in accordance with an American-Zionist plot to cover his capitulatory schemes and concessions?

We appeal to our kinfolk and people in the Lebanon camps to be aware of the dimensions of the capitulatory plot led by 'Arafat. We appeal to our kinfolk not to become the fuel that hides the plans of capitulation. Every honest Palestinian everywhere must raise his voice against the plot aimed against the Palestine question and armed struggle.

We say to the mercenaries of 'Arafat: Enough of killing the Palestinian people by the hundreds in front of the villages of Jarbu' and Kafr Milki. These villages are not 'Akko, Qiryat Shemona, Haifa, and Galilee. Until when will you continue to sell your conscience and dignity? Have you not learned the lessons of history?

We in the PFLP-GC ask 'Arafat and his cliques: Why are you launching this rabid attack on the Islamic Republic of Iran? Is it because the Islamic Republic of Iran said that the Zionist entity was a cancerous tumor that should be removed or because it said, when the revolution triumphed, today in Tehran and tomorrow in Palestine?

'Arafat and his men should have attacked the Arab regimes that implicated him in the march of humiliation and shame and left him isolated, rejected, and renounced.

Out of a position of struggle and jihad, we in the PFLP-GC appeal to President Hafiz al-Asad and President Hashemi-Rafsanjani to intervene to stop the crazy war in which many suspect parties are fishing. We appeal to them to move swiftly to stop the bloodshed among brothers so that southern Lebanon may recover and

become a militant base to confront the ambitions of the Zionists and their herds, the new immigrants.

Fatah Council Meets on Committees, Intifadah

JN0108170590 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic
1 Aug 90 p 23

[By Fathi al-Barqawi in Tunis]

[Text] The Fatah Central Council held a meeting yesterday chaired by Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and attended by the majority of Council members.

Palestinian sources said the Council discussed during the meeting, which is considered the concluding session of previous meetings held in the Tunisian capital about two weeks ago, internal affairs of the [Fatah] movement, in addition to Arab-Palestinian relations and the intifadah in the occupied Palestinian territories.

The sources add that a decision was reached during the past meetings, in which the intifadah was focused on, to define the privileges of the Occupied Land Committee and the Intifadah Committee so that there is no overlap between them, as well as the structure of the Occupied Land Committee. In this context, it has been decided that the two committees will be chaired by 'Arafat personally. Central Committee Member 'Abbas Zaki has been appointed treasurer of the Intifadah Committee and Hayil 'Abd-al-Hamid, alias Abu-al-Hawl, treasurer of the Occupied Land Committee. Central Committee member Mahmud Jihad has been kept responsible for the military affairs and Central Committee Member Subhi Abu-Karsh, alias Abu-al-Mundhir, responsible for organizational affairs.

Agreement was also reached to call the movement's Revolutionary Council into session. It is believed that the meeting was convened last night with the participation of those members who are in Tunis; they number around 40, including the Central Committee members. The Revolutionary Council has 110 members, some of whom were present in Tunis a few days ago. However, because Yasir 'Arafat had other engagements, the meeting was put off until this time.

Informed circles within the movement say that 'Arafat will present a report to the Revolutionary Council in which he will explain all the developments related to the Palestine question, especially issues concerning dialogue with the U.S. Administration that was suspended by U.S. President George Bush at the beginning of last month, and Egyptian mediation in this field. This is in addition to discussions between Arab and West European delegations, specifically, the ideas presented by the Palestinian president on the possibility of presenting a draft plan on the Middle East question.

Egypt

Flights Arranged To Transport Iraqis Home

NC0608115990 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1124 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 6 Aug (MENA)—A decision was made today for Iraqi Airways to operate three flights to take the Iraqis living in Cairo who wish to return to their country through the Jordanian capital Amman.

The first plane, a Boeing 727, arrived here today and took 140 passengers from Cairo to Amman.

There will be one flight daily through 8 August.

A responsible source at Iraqi Airways said that the passengers will be flown to Amman aboard the Iraqi planes and then driven overland to Baghdad because Baghdad airport is closed.

'Arafat Leaves for Jeddah After Meeting Mubarak

NC0608131090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1244 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Alexandria, 6 Aug (MENA)—Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat left Alexandria for Jeddah this afternoon after a brief visit during which he held consultations with President Husni Mubarak on the situation in the Gulf.

In a predeparture statement to reporters, president 'Arafat said he is currently completing the Arab tour he began earlier, and added that this is what was agreed upon with President Mubarak. He prayed that God would guide everyone to serve the interests of the Arab nation.

President 'Arafat declined to answer reporters' questions. He said: It is better to be prudent when you want things done.

Dr. Usamah al-Baz, first Foreign Ministry under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, and Alexandria Governor al-Sayyid al-Jawsaqi saw 'Arafat off.

Jordan's King Husayn Telephones Mubarak

NC0608132890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Alexandria, 6 Aug (MENA)—Jordan's King Husayn telephoned President Husni Mubarak this afternoon.

Mubarak's Rejection of Mini-Summit 'Disclosed'

NC0608142490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1302 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 6 Aug (MENA)—An official Egyptian source today disclosed that President Husni Mubarak rejected convening a mini-summit in Jeddah unless the basis and principles necessary to achieve positive results were secured. The source said that the announcement by His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan on convening the summit was not accompanied by an initial agreement on these principles and the basis for which it was to be convened. Regarding the issuance of the Arab League Council's resolution on the entry of the Iraqi forces into Kuwait, the source said that Egypt has no right to impose a resolution on the Arab League nor to prevent the passing of one.

In response to a question by MENA on Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran's statement that there was an agreement with President Mubarak that the Arab League not pass a resolution condemning the Iraqi invasion to give King Husayn's efforts a chance, the official source said: The Egyptian delegation, along with several other fraternal Arab delegations, exerted great efforts to persuade the Arab League Council to postpone issuing a resolution on the entry of the Iraqi forces into Kuwait to give a chance to His Majesty King Husayn's endeavors during his visit to Baghdad to reach a settlement.

The source added that the Arab League Council did not pass the resolution until the evening of the next day, after the deadline, after the failure of these efforts to reach positive results, and after the arrival of Iraqi Revolution Command Council member Sa'dun Hammadi, who headed his country's delegation. Egypt, he added, has no right to impose a resolution on the Arab League Council nor to prevent one. The source pointed out that the Arab League Council passed its resolution in light of the information and instructions by the governments of the member states and after the deadline proposed by Jordan.

In answer to another question by MENA on the reasons why the mini-summit that King Husayn declared after his return from Baghdad would be convened in Jeddah was cancelled, the source said that President Husni Mubarak rejected the convening of a mini-summit, because the proposal to convene it was stipulated by the need to secure certain principles and basis for resolving the crisis and containing the situation, but no agreement was reached on these principles and basis. The source further said that His Majesty King Husayn's declaration about convening the mini-summit in Jeddah was not accompanied by an initial agreement on the principles and basis for which the mini-summit would be convened. President Mubarak, therefore, rejected the convening of the mini-summit unless principles and basis conducive to achieving positive results were secured.

'Abd-al-Majid on Treatment of Egyptians in Iraq

NC0608145290 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1355 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 6 Aug (MENA)—Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, stressed that Egypt is anxious that Egyptian citizens in Kuwait and Iraq receive due protection and care.

In statements he made following his meeting with Iraqi Ambassador in Cairo Nabil Najm, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said that Egypt had requested the meeting and that he

stressed to the Iraqi ambassdor Egypt's desire that Egyptian nationals in Kuwait and Iraq be well treated "in light of the reports of some incidents that have come to our attention." He added that the Iraqi leadership never accepts any actions committed against peaceful Egyptian nationals in a fraternal country. He noted that the Iraqi ambassador promised to convey the Egyptian demand to the Iraqi Government, stressing his country's eagerness to exert every possible effort in that regard.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid assured the Egyptians working in Kuwait, the expatriates who were in Egypt when the crisis occurred, and other Egyptian families that Egypt is following the issue very closely, expressing his hope that the crisis will pass.

Regarding the Egyptians who were going back to work in Kuwait through Saudi Arabia and who had entered Saudi territories but could not enter Kuwait, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said that contact has been made with Saudi foreign minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, who confirmed that his country has issued instructions to take care of Egyptians who are in the town of Hafr al-Batin on the Saudi-Kuwaiti border. He expressed his confidence that this treatment by the Saudi authorities will reduce the pain and anxiety of Egyptian families who happened to be in Hafr al-Batin.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said that the Egyptian nationals who are in Saudi Arabia, Iraq, or Kuwait are in fraternal Arab countries and will receive security, care, and protection in these countries.

Paper Says World 'Outraged' by Iraqi Action

JN0608154890 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 4 Aug 90 pp 1, 8

[Article by editor in chief Ibrahim Sa'dah entitled: "The Invisible Government"]

[Excerpts] The only thing we care about is the safety and security of the fraternal Kuwaiti people. Likewise, the only thing that alarms us is that the Kuwaiti people should have to suffer the tribulations of disintegration, occupation, destruction, and ruin. What really pains us is that this could be the fate of a fraternal Arab country which has always supported our Arab causes, and stood by all Arab countries that were in need of assistance for one reason or another.

Proceeding from the above, we in Egypt will support and back what the Kuwaiti people choose for their present and future. For they alone know what is good for them and what will do them harm. They alone have the right to choose their leaders and to shape the image of their present and future. I do not think that there is a single Arab state that views things differently or that disagree with us. For peoples usually choose their own leaders, adhere to their chosen system of government, and, finally, declare their views and define their positions. These are the simplest principles of democracy which cannot be disputed or argued about, except by those dictators who are under the illusion that the final word is theirs, that people can be ruled by whips, and that no voice can rise above the voice of terrorism, submission, and oppression. [passage omitted]

It is the Egyptian citizen's right to ask: Why have the Iraqis done it, despite the reassurances of President Saddam Husayn to President Husni Mubarak that he would not attack Kuwait?

The question is extremely important. Likewise, it merits a quick answer and disclosure on the part of Saddam Husayn, president of the state of Iraq, which is a member of the Arab Cooperation Council along with Egypt, Jordan, and Yemen.

I cannot imagine that the president of a fraternal Arab country would reassure the head of the largest Arab country that he is not contemplating invading Kuwait, no matter how bad the relations between the two countries get; the Egyptian president takes President Saddam at his word, and conveys the reassurances to the Kuwaiti ruler, who, in turn, believes these reassurances, welcomes and applauds them, and orders all the Kuwaiti papers to publish the news the next morning; a few days later, we are surprised by hundreds of Iraqi tanks breaking into Kuwaiti borders, infiltrating Kuwait, and destroying and killing whatever stands in their way!

Neither do I imagine how the Iraqi president could tell our president that he will not attack Kuwait, and then a few hours later, we are surprised by Iraqi forces penetrating Kuwait, occupying its territories, destroying its property, and killing thousands of its sons, as if all that the Iraqi president had said was mere lies or camouflage so that the big invasion, which he planned in advance, could succeed.

The entire world was shocked by Saddam Husayn. This world is now groping for a means of response and deterrence. The Iraqi president should be proud that for the first time in the history of their relationship, the United States and the USSR have agreed on a unified stance against the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. The world has changed. The United States, which is the patron of capitalism, has become a friend and an ally to the USSR, the patron of communism. This fact could not have been imagined or envisaged by the Iraqi regime. [passage omitted]

Iraq, I believe, made a grave mistake when it attacked Kuwait and occupied its territories.

This Iraqi mistake has various dimensions:

—The Iraqis made a mistake when they lied to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and swore to him that Iraq had no aggressive intentions against Kuwait. They stressed to the Egyptian president that Iraq would not attack Kuwait militarily for any reason.

President Husni Mubarak took Saddam Husayn at his word and announced this, in the name of the Iraqi president, through all Arab and international news media. But few days later, the Iraqi statement proved

false. It is therefore certain that the question marks will be raised next to the Iraqi, not the Egyptian, president. It is not logical that the Egyptian president would make statements attributed to Iraq without having heard these statements literally from the Iraqi president in person. And the Iraqi president cannot possibly say something to his friend and ally, the Egyptian president, and contradict it a few days later.

—The invasion of Kuwait was premeditated by Iraq, which paid little attention to all the contacts and mediations of the Arab presidents, kings, and rulers, which aimed at resolving the differences and bringing the two sides to the negotiating table. The ample evidence to this is that the Jeddah talks broke up as a result of the Iraqi negotiator's intransigence. The Iraqi military invasion of Kuwait began less than 24 hours later.

According to the alphabet of any military invasion, it must be preceded by a lot of preparation that takes several weeks, not just several days. This means that Iraq accepted—deceptively—the proposal of bilateral talks only because it needed to buy time to complete its preparations and begin its attack on the small fraternal country!

—The Iraqi action in Kuwait has outraged the entire world. It is enough evidence that Europe's media were unanimous in attacking their governments because they supported Iraq in its war against Iran! It is enough that the Iranian Government hastened to condemn Iraq and defend Kuwait's right to choose its policy and rulers! And it is enough that the United States and all its European allies, and all communist countries headed by the Soviet Union decided to confront this aggression and announce that all options to realize this objective will be kept open until the expulsion of the Iraqi forces from Kuwait becomes possible.

—An attack on one Arab country by another is unprecedented. It is even more surprising that Kuwait is the victim of this aggression, especially coming from Iraq. We all know the huge amount of financial assistance that Kuwait provided to Iraq before the Gulf war between Iraq and Iran, during the years of that ugly war, and after the cease-fire between the two countries.

—The entire foreign world is in a state of shock at this Iraqi invasion of a small and peaceful state like Kuwait. And the Arab world, at the same time, still cannot believe what they hear and read about these extraordinary and unexpected events. No one can believe that an Arab country can mass its troops at the border with another Arab country and then cross that border and go deep inside the territories of the fraternal state to occupy it and conquer the will of its people.

But what was ruled out yesterday is now a reality.

Brothers, the Arab nationalism is no more. We no longer hear about it. In the eyes of some, the Arab League is merely a league to graduate jobless people. Concerning the unified Arab destiny in the face of Zionism, some interpret it today as meaning that the road to Tel Aviv must pass through Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, Manama, Doha, and Riyadh.

May God help the Arabs of Islam!

Fahd Adviser Arrives in Alexandria With Message

NC0608160890 Cairo MENA in English 1555 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Alexandria, Aug 6 (MENA)—Muhammad al-Sulayman, advisor to King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, arrived here at 1700 local time on a flying visit to Egypt during which he will deliver a message from King Fahd to President Husni Mubarak on the latest developments in the Gulf area following the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait.

The visit of the Saudi envoy comes within the framework of intensive efforts exerted by both President Mubarak and King Fahd to contain the crisis and seek a peaceful solution thereto.

Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat left here at 1500 local time heading for Saudi Arabia following his meeting with President Mubarak. Afterwards he will fly to Iraq.

Kuwaiti Envoy: Amir, Two Ministers Safe

NC0608210890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2025 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Cairo, 6 Aug (MENA)—The Kuwaiti ambassador in Cairo, 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Kandari, has affirmed that Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah is well and in a safe place. He said that Defense Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Sabah and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad are with the amir. They were not hurt in any way, as rumors said.

Speaking at a news conference in his house in Cairo this evening, the Kuwaiti ambassador praised the Egyptian Government's assistance to the Kuwaiti nationals in Cairo. He said that it has placed all its resources at the disposal of the Kuwaiti Embassy in Cairo to help the Kuwaiti nationals in Egypt, whose numbers range between 25,000 and 30,000. Some 5,000 to 6,000 of them have been registered at the embassy. [passage omitted]

The Kuwaiti ambassador appealed to the whole world to take all possible measures to deter the aggressor. He said that the issue no longer concerns Kuwait alone, but the entire world.

Answering a question, Ambassador al-Kandari said: We are still prepared to negotiate with Iraq on all issues, but such negotiations cannot take place under an occupation. Iraq must immediately withdraw from Kuwait unconditionally and implement UN Security Council Resolution 660. [passage omitted]

French Frigate Transits Suez Canal to Red Sea

NC0708130190 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0943 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Ismailia, 7 Aug (MENA)—The French frigate Duplex transited the Suez Canal today coming from the Mediterranean on its way to the Red Sea.

The French frigate passed through the Canal within the North convoy.

President Bush Telephones Mubarak 7 Aug

NC0708115690 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Within the framework of President Husni Mubarak's contacts with Arab and world leaders to resolve the Kuwaiti-Iraqi crisis, U.S. President George Bush telephoned President Mubarak this morning.

'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council, arrived in Alexandria this afternoon on an official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt and will be received by President Mubarak.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Teachers on Arab Nation

LD0708013190 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2025 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Speech by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on 6 August at meeting of newly graduated teachers; place not specified—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Hundreds of years have gone by, during which we suffered from Ottoman colonialism, Western colonialism, and lastly neo-Western colonialism. This took time and effort. All the peoples of the area where Arabs lived and areas near it were exposed to a similar experience. These nations have just managed to get out of this historical era. They have begun to raise themselves and achieve independence and learn, like we are doing today. We are trying to learn, build, to make up for the past losses, and to build a future. However, we are once again facing an attempt to impose new difficult circumstances on us.

I must (?speak) the truth. It is not a story of the past, nor is it fiction. These are facts. Libya used to be ruled by the Spaniards, when the Ottomans came to Libya. Western colonialism—the crusades—began in the rest of the area. We appealed to the Ottomans to save us from the Spaniards. And the Ottomans colonized us instead. For hundreds of years we were under Ottoman colonialism, in the name of protecting us from the West. It is because the Ottomans were Muslims and the West Christian.

In the name of Islam, the Turks enslaved us in actual fact for hundreds of years. They put us back for centuries. When the Ottoman empire became old and abandoned its Arab colonies, it left us helpless and weak. We fell prey to Western colonialism against which they were protecting us and for which they ruled us for hundreds of years in order to keep it out.

It is known that the Turks handed over Libya to the Italians in return for islands in the Aegean Sea which belonged to Turkey. Those islands were Turkish. They said: Give us these islands and we will give up Libya. [passage omitted]

How could it be; we had just got ourselves free from colonialism in order to be free to build and educate; here they were confronting us once more. I mean the present days—the present period. This period resembles those periods of the Ottomans and the West.

Transient matters exist between Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the (?people of the Gulf). The Americans are preparing to intervene. Why should they? What has it got to do with them? Why did they not intervene when the Israelis took Sinai, the West Bank of the Jordan, or the Golan in Syria? Why did they not intervene and say: This is an annexation of the territories of others? Today the Israelis have seized South Lebanon right up to the Litani River. The Israelis have occupied south Lebanon. Why did the Americans not make a landing, push back the Israeli forces, and tell them: How can this be? This is a small country called Lebanon; why do you transgress against it? The Americans were laughing; they encouraged and they applauded the Israelis who were occupying Arab areas. [passage indistinct]

Even Tunisia, during the time of Bourguiba; the American forces prepared to defend Tunisia against Libya. They said that Libya was going to attack its neighbors and we are prepared to defend it. We moved a squadron of aircraft to Kufrah. It was normal, from one base to another, yet they were blown up and the U.S. 6th Fleet began to approach Libyan shores: aircraft carriers, destroyers, and frigates. The United States announced that it was confronting Libya because Libya was attacking Sudan, in Numayri's days. [passage omitted] They were searching everywhere in order to get in. It is a new form of colonialism; they were just looking for a pretext. When they cannot find a pretext, they just create one. [passage omitted]

They attacked Grenada and occupied it. They attacked Panama and occupied it, and seized its leader to put him on trial in their country as though he was a U.S. citizen.

The English are sending their ships, the French are sending their ships, and the United States is sending its ships to the Gulf as if they own the Gulf. The Gulf of Sidra, the line that connects Misratah with Banghazi—the Line of Death. Entering territorial waters is tantamount to entering Libya. They said that they wanted to carry out maneuvers beyond that line. [passage omitted]

We do not have the time to listen to someone giving us lessons in charlatanism or demagoguery. It is a waste of time. You will teach your children and the children of your people. They might become teachers, lecturers,

scientists, technicians, intellectuals. This is the most potent weapons with which we can resist colonialism, ignorance, and backwardness; it is called science.

They want this sacred mission to fail. It will fail when we seek help from a teacher in Sudan or Jordan or [word indistinct]. We will find him to be suffering from the affliction of the Muslim brotherhood or Al-Takfir or atheism. Instead of teaching us mathmatics, sciences, or language he will start by brainwashing the student to make him subservient, make him his servant. (?only then) will he go to paradise. [passage omitted expounding on his idea of teachers not teaching but spreading their religious tendencies]

They are more dangerous than the United States, more dangerous than Zionism, more dangerous than AIDS or cancer or tuberculosis. They are more dangerous. We are creating healthy people and we try to tell them not to eat this or that or to eat this and that. The doctor advices us so that we remain fit. Of all these ailments we fall into an illness which is more dangerous than all these put together. [passage omitted]

How can a person who is not in a position to ensure themselves a place in heaven come along to trick youths and tell them: I will make sure you go to paradise. This is what prompted the Americans, the English, and the Jews to be so insolent with us. Enter the Gulf of Serte, the Arabian Gulf, and they enter Lebanon and take Palestine and Challenge the rest. If there are people with this mentality they do not deserve to live.

[words indistinct] someone called (?al-Nabhani). I have mentioned him quite a few times. The Jews and the English taught him in 1948. He was their spy. They told him: Grow a beard and make yourself an imam. Go to those people who are staging a jihad for Palestine—this huge torrent—go and stop it. Pretend you are an imam and say to them: Come, I am going to form a party called the Islamic Liberation Party. Anyone who becomes a member of it will be ready to liberate Palestine. Stop them—that is, show them where to stop. They taught him how to dupe people. Anyone who wanted to go along with the jihad, he would tell: How can you go to jihad alone? It is ridiculous. Come, enter the party, the Liberation Party. Good, the Islamic Liberation Party is good. [interrupted by chants]

He tells them: Enter the Islamic Liberation Party so that you can liberate Palestine. No one can volunteer to become a mujahid or a fedayeen. No he should belong the the Liberation Party first. Anyone who believed this idea quite innocently would enter the Islamic Liberation Party. After he entered the party he would feel that it is a good thing. We have entered the party and gotten our training. Let us now liberate Palestine. He would tell them: No, we do not own it. Who owns it?

He would say: Only when the khalifah [caliph] appears, the khalifah of the Islamic nation. This khalifah will then order the jihad. At that time the jihad will be lawful. Without a khalifah we can liberate Palestine. Still today they are waiting, they are waiting for the khalifah to emerge. The Israelis are bringing all the immigrants. They have made atomic bombs, intercontinental missiles, and artificial satellites. As for us, we are still waiting for the emergence of the khalifah. We do not know from which direction he will appear. We should turn around ourselves. We should watch all directions. Watch the camels. It is not certain whether the khalifah is coming riding a donkey or a camel. How absurd. [passage omitted]

This is an example, one of the examples which exist today that must be exterminated and slaughtered because we are not in a position to waste time on this empty noise. We have seen the fleets moving everywhere. The khalifah has not come. What has come is the foreign fleets. They think that perhaps one of the U.S. vessels which headed toward us carried a khalifah or something. Most certainly they are waiting for him. [passage indistinct] unfortunately, most of them are Palestinians.

The Islamic Liberation Party leaders are Palestinians, Palestinians who are in constant contact with Israeli intelligence via Jordan. They are in Jordan so that they can contact Israeli intelligence. The so-called Islamic Liberation Party is synonymous with Israeli intelligence. Instead of initiating an Arab renaissance they brought in the Muslim Brotherhood movement. [passage omitted]

What we have to confront is the imperialist power which has been regenerated and serious Zionist ambitions toward our homes. We have to confront the denial of our existence. Brothers, the Gulf is ours, it belongs to Arabs. At least half of it is ours [words indistinct]. What have you got to do with it [words indistinct]? Our very existence is denied, our existence in our land. These ambitions cannot stop by themselves. They can only be stopped by confrontation.

Therefore we have to be in a state of confrontation. The last thing in confrontation is to carry a gun, but before that it will be with science, knowledge, economic construction, and technology. Anyone who diverts us from this program must be crushed as though he were a stumbling block in the way. [passage omitted]

The Soviet Union has even given up Lithuania, Estonia, and Georgia. The Soviet Union wants to give them all up. Russia has given up all that. The country that is creeping up on and occupying the world is the United States. The jihad should be turned against the United States. The camps in Pakistan should fight the United States and its influence in Pakistan and in that region sending the message not to go to Pakistan, not to go Afghanistan. [passage omitted]

We are facing a new phase of ambitions and challenges which does not give us the opportunity to build. In self-defense we must turn toward unity and strength. Anything that undermines our unity and diverts us from building our strength must be destroyed. [passage omitted]

Arab Unity Sought To Offset U.S. Threat in Gulf

LD0408013190 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Under the headline: Arab Quarrels Are a Domestic Matter—the newspaper AL-JAMAHIRIYAH carries an editorial in its Friday edition which says: According to all the criteria which can be used to define the credibility of any relationship between two paradoxes, there should be an incident which acts as a test case to prove the truth of that relationship whatever the circumstances and causes.

The Arab nation's relationship with the Western world, for example, is governed by internal and international policies that follow untrustworthy, slippery lines and bends. This is due to the nature of the historical relationship which has always been accompanied by the notoreity of the Western world. The Arab man can never say a good word about it. This is a result of an extensive experience from which the Arab man has reaped nothing except the West's aggression and treachery against ll Arabs without exception. [passage omitted]

The Arabs' relationship with the United States in particular proceeds from the fact that the United States is the leader of the present imperialist world and the leader of the racist and hateful campaigns against the Arab nation. This relationship has never been and will never be anything other than paradoxes. Historically, racially, religously, and fatefully—no matter what flimsy pretexts have been used, the United States has seized the first opportunity to intervene militarily. Witness its aggression against the great Jamaihiyah in April 1986 or its exploitation of the Gulf war to mass its fleets to confront Arabs in the Gulf. [passage omitted]

The Arabs who were startled by U.S. might and force which it used to dominate the world by aggression did not realize that this force was built, flourished, grew stronger, and assembled in order to dominate all other nations, and in particular the Arabs. This is the historical paradox in their dreams and minds. Consequently, the United States deals with the Arabs as regimes which must be protected as long as they follow in its footsteps. It knows that the masses of the Arab nation can never accept the United States as an ally who will deal with them on an equal footing or as a friend who can be trusted. Hence, the United States deals with the Arabs very cautiously in accordance with a relationship based on U.S. interests. It seeks to exploit all economic and political potential and rob the resources of this nation until the historical opportunity arises when it can devour the entire nation. [passage omitted]

The Jamahiriyah has dealt with this relationship through a revolutionary and true viewpoint which is confirmed daily—namely, that any relationship between Arabs and the West is a false one. It does not benefit the Arabs. This relationship is defined by the masses and not by regimes. All the hirelings who have sought U.S. help have fallen under the feet of the masses. The U.S. was of no benefit to them with its fleets and might.

We are saying this while we see Arab quarrels which we hope will be resolved through fraternal understanding and dialogue inside the Arab family, within a true Arab social framework. But as we said, the size of the relationship with the West has been exploited by Western quarters; the United States in particular finds an excuse for foreign interference, which is unacceptable in the affairs and issues of this nation. These issues must be solved by Arabs and not by those who harbor evil and hope for more quarrels so that they can have a pretext to intervene.

The Great Jamahiriyah as an Arab country concerned about the interests and unity of this nation calls on the Arab League to intervene strongly against United States threats to intervene in Arab affairs. It should play a prominent role in solving Arab quarrels within an Arab framework. The United States waits for cheap opportunities. It is not concerned about protecting anyone's regime as much as it is interested in satisfying its mad instinct to control the Arab arena, a vital sphere which enables it to control the oil outlets which it has turned into a weapon against the Arabs.

The Great Jamihiriyah as a unionist state calls on the Arabs to speed up the unity process because it is the savior from all evils which we witness today. Through unity Arab quarrels will come to and end and through unity the United States will not be able to get near Arab soil. Through unity Palestine will be liberated. Through unity the voices which are gloating and mocking Arab quarrels will be silenced.

Sudan

Al-Bashir Talks With Yemen, Jordan Leaders

EA0608205690 Khartoum SUNA in English 0925 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Khartoum, 6th August—General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir, chairman of the RCC [Revolution Command Council], and Yemeni leader 'Ali 'Abdullah Salih had exchanged views on the situation in the Arab arena and stressed the necessity of avoiding the strategies of colonial power. Gen al-Bashir, who received yesterday a telephone call from President Salih, said in a press statement the two countries' viewpoints were (?identical).

Gen. al-Bashir telephoned the same day King Husayn of Jordan on the latest development in the Arab world and ways of unifying Arab rank.

Further on Talk With King Husayn

EA0608214590 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Khartoum, 6th August—Yesterday Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the

Revolution Command Council [RCC] and of the council of ministers, had a telephone conversation with the Jordanian Monarch, King Husayn Ibn-Talal. The director of the prime minister's office told the press that Lt. Gen 'Umar al-Bashir expressed the gratitude of Sudan's Government and people over the valuable statement issued by His Highness Prince al-Hasan, the Jordanian crown prince, concerning the threats against Sudan's national security. He added that Lt. Gen. 'Umar al-Bashir expressed his sincere appreciation for the valuable efforts which the Jordanian monarch had taken on his shoulders to maintain the unity of Arab ranks and narrow the gap of differences in the Arab arena through the moves of shuttle diplomacy he recently undertook in capitals of the Arab world.

He pointed out, meanwhile, that King Husayn confirmed to Lt. Gen. al-Bashir the concurrence of views regarding what was going on in the Arab homeland and particularly keeping at bay whatever might weaken the Arab nation, widen the gap of differences between its sons, and at the same time open wide the doors for colonialist and Zionist interference, both of which have not ceased their postures aimed at damaging the Arab nation and protecting foreign interests which conflict with the rights and interests of the Arab people.

Bahrain

Minister Leaves for GCC Meeting 7 Aug

JN0708081890 Manama WAKH in Arabic
0740 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Manama, 7 Aug (WAKH)—Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Mubarak Al Khalifah left Manama today for Jeddah, in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to lead the Bahraini delegation to the emergency meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council's [GCC] foreign ministers.

The foreign minister is accompanied by Bahraini Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Muhammad Al Khalifah.

Amir Receives Message From Turkish President

JN0508092290 Manama WAKH in Arabic
0835 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Manama, 5 Aug (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Salman al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, has received a written message from Turkish President Turgut Ozal dealing with bilateral relations and the latest developments.

The message was delivered by the Turkish consul-general during his meeting with the amir of Bahrain this morning.

Kuwait

U.S., Iranian Ships Reportedly Seized

NC0608114490 Paris AFP in English
1136 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Dubayy, Aug 6 (AFP)—Iraqi troops have seized several ships in the port of Kuwait, including a U.S. tanker and two Iranian vessels, and the crews have been detained, shipping sources said here Monday.

"The ships have not been allowed to leave. They are still there and their crews have been detained," one source said.

A U.S. tanker, the Sea Wolf, and two Iranian ships, the passenger ferry Hormuz and the freighter Safeer, are among the vessels held since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait last Thursday, the source said.

They said there were no passengers on the Hormuz at the time of the invasion. The ferry went into service last month between Kuwait and the Iranian port of Bushehr.

The source said some ships had been allowed to discharge their cargo and leave port since the invasion. These include Iranian launches that have since docked at Dubayy.

According to U.S. television reports, the Sea Wolf had a 20-man American crew.

Freighters and container ships heading for Kuwait have discharged their cargos at Dubayy and other ports in the United Arab Emirates and the goods are being stored pending a resolution of the crisis, port officials said here.

Lloyds Shipping Agency reported no major disruption to shipping in the Gulf due to the invasion but said "some of the ships are taking precautions."

Iraqi Troops Tighten Restrictions on Residents

NC0608115890 Paris AFP in English
1138 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Dubayy, Aug 6 (AFP)—Iraqi troops controlling Kuwait city are tightening restrictions on movements of residents, who are mobbing supermarkets in the fear that stocks will run out, Lloyds Shipping Agency said here Monday.

The Agency's Dubayy branch said it had received a telex from the Lloyds Shipping office in Kuwait Sunday describing the situation there as "relatively calm".

"All our people are safe. They have been able to move around but the Iraqi troops are becoming more restrictive," a Lloyds official said.

"The supermarkets are open but mobbed. There are stocks for about one week, according to the latest message," he added.

He said the telex made no reference to the situation at the port of Kuwait, where according to other shipping sources here, Iraqi troops have blocked several vessels and detained their crews.

Iraq invaded Kuwait Thursday after the breakdown in talks to resolve a bitter oil and territorial dispute. It later announced the formation of a new government to replace the administration of the emir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, who had fled to Saudi Arabia.

'Provisional Government' Denies Report on Clashes

JN0608135690 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1316 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Aug (INA)—The provisional free Kuwait government has ridiculed the false reports carried by MENA claiming that clashes have taken place in the city of Kuwait.

In a statement here today, a press spokesman for the provisional free Kuwait government said that MENA has ironically fabricated news about alleged clashes in the city of Kuwait, and attributed this fabricated news report to Western sources.

The spokesman stressed that while we deny this report part and parcel, we advise MENA not to get involved in adopting news of this kind, which make it look ridiculous.

The press spokesman also advised MENA not to get involved in spreading news that serves the enemies of Kuwait at this point in our people's struggle.

He said: We affirm, once again, that security and stability prevail in Kuwait, where as of 0700 today the citizens began enjoying the freedom of movement. At the same time, a large number of workers reported for work in the vital service sectors to resume their duties.

Concluding his statement, the press spokesman stressed: We cannot but warn those who market fabricated news that is hostile to our people that such news will not bring back the ousted regime, which is gone forever, and will not change anything in the bright fact that the era of freedom and real Arabism has begun in Kuwait, and that no one can hide this fact.

Envoy in France Views Iraqi Ambassador Remarks

JN0608142590 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Jamal al-Nasasi, official in charge of the political affairs at the Kuwaiti Embassy in Paris, has made a statement to our radio in response to the news conference held by 'Abd-al-Razzaq al- Hashimi, Iraqi ambassador in Paris:

[Begin al-Nasasi recording] Out of our concern for highlighting the facts, we would like to mention some important facts in response to the statement made by the Iraqi ambassador in Paris this morning:

First, we wonder why the Iraqi ambassador cancelled his news conference and only issued a statement, after which he refused to answer journalists' questions, and left the hall.

Second, we wonder why Iraq used hundreds of tanks, dozens of planes, helicopters, and approximately 150,000 Iraqi soldiers, destroyed civilian installations, killed Kuwaitis who refused to obey their orders, encroached on places of worship, destroyed hospitals, and robbed and sacked Kuwaiti establishments.

Is this considered a coup attempt, as claimed by Iraq?

Third, this statement shows the methods of terrorism and threats that are still being used by Iraq, particularly on the states that have supported Kuwait and its just cause.

Fourth, with regard to Iraq's claim on the beginning of its withdrawal from Kuwaiti territory, Iraq is still concentrating its troops in Kuwait—disguised with Kuwaiti uniforms under the name of the popular army, which has no link whatsoever with the Kuwaiti people.

Fifth, the alleged government appointed by the Iraqi regime consists of military personnel not affiliated with Kuwait at all. Their statements smack of terrorism, particularly since they released the terrorists which the legitimate Kuwaiti Government was determined not to release, in order to prevent and combat terrorism in all its forms.

The Kuwaiti people only recognize their legitimate government under the leadership of His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, emir of the country, and his faithful heir apparent, Shaykh Sa'd al- 'Abdallah al-Sabah, may God preserve them. [end recording]

KUNA Paris Bureau Quotes Emir Message

LD0608142990 Rabat MAP in English 1324 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Paris, Aug 6 (MAP)—The emir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir Al-Ahmad al-Sabah reiterated Sunday [his] call on his people to continue resistance against the Iraqi occupation and expressed satisfaction at the fact that Kuwait was not isolated in its struggle.

The emir, whose message was read on Radio Kuwait and quoted by the Paris bureau of the Kuwaiti news agency KUNA, added that all Arabs 'are on our side, as well as the rest of the world who did not hesitate to condemn the aggression'.

Iraqi Forces Arrest Foreigners

British, Americans

AU0608154690 Paris AFP in English 1513 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] London, Aug 6 (AFP)—Iraqi forces in Kuwait Monday began arresting British and American citizens at the Kuwait airport and at the SAS hotel in the centre of Kuwait City, the Foreign Office announced here.

Those arrested were to be sent to Iraq, the Foreign Office added.

The report came from diplomatic sources in Kuwait, it said, adding that there was no information about the number of people who had been picked up.

Some 3,000 British citizens are currently in Kuwait.

At the weekend 35 British military advisors in Kuwait were arrested and taken to Bagdhad. Diplomatic negotiations on their fate were held unsucessfully throughout the weekend.

Austrian Citizen

AU0608184090 Vienna ORF Teletext in German 1819 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Excerpt] This afternoon Iraqi invasion troops in Kuwait abducted an unknown number of foreigners from Kuwait Airport and the SAS Hotel. The abducted people are mainly British and Americans but there is one Austrian citizen among them as well. His identity is still unknown. [passage omitted]

Bused to Baghdad

AU0608160890 Paris AFP in English 1554 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Excerpt] London, Aug 6 (AFP)—Iraqi forces in Kuwait on Monday began arresting British and American citizens at the Kuwait airport and at two downtown hotels to put them on buses bound for Baghdad, the Foreign Office announced here.

Those arrested included some of the 366 passengers of a British Airways London to Madras flight stranded in Kuwait, a Foreign Office spokesman said.

He said the Foreign Office, which was unclear on the motives of the operation, would try to send diplomats posted in Baghdad to meet the buses at the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border.

The report came from diplomatic sources in Kuwait, he said, adding that there was no information about the number of people who had been picked up. [passage ommitted]

Austrians Seek Refuge in Austrian Embassy

AU0608210490 Vienna Television Service in German 2000 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Telephone interview with Thomas Klestil, secretary general in the Austrian Foreign Ministry, by Elmar Oberhauser in Vienna on 6 August—live]

[Excerpt] [Oberhauser] Can you tell us any details about the abduction of an Austrian citizen in Kuwait?

[Klestil] Well, first of all I would like to stress that immediately after the fighting began our ambassador in Kuwait was able to find out that all Austrians in Kuwait—about 60 to 70—are well. The ambassador offered his fellow citizens refuge in the embassy building if they would feel safer there. About 20 Austrians have accepted this offer. The Austrian who is reported missing was in a group of foreigners who were abducted by the Iraqis in the Sheraton Hotel and taken from Kuwait to Baghdad, where they were put up in various hotels. Our ambassador has already contacted the Iraqi Foreign Ministry on our instructions and is currently making inquiries in those hotels concerning the whereabouts of the Austrian citizen

[Oberhauser] Do you know his name?

[Klestil] The Austrian is probably a naturalized citizen, and I hope that you understand that I cannot give you his name as long as our ambassador in Baghdad has not clearly established all details and the identity of this man. [passage omitted]

Embassy in Amman Denies Iraqi Troop Pullout

NC0608153190 Cairo MENA in English 1515 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Amman, August 6 (MENA)—The Kuwaiti Embassy here said Iraq's declaration that its forces have started their pullout from Kuwait is not true. The forces only stole some Kuwaiti military equipment and moved them towards Iraq, the embassy added.

In a statement released here today, the embassy said that the formation of the so-called "People's Army" for the protection of the so-called "provisional government" is a proof of Iraq's failure and deception as the army depends on mercenaries and not on Kuwaitis.

The Iraqi invasion failed to attract any Kuwaiti at any level, the statement added, pointing out that the government was formed by Iraqi mercenaries.

The Kuwait resistance is continuing and will go on in the future. Its last operation was the raid on the Iraqi headquarters in the al- Jahra' region, the statement said. It called on Arab [words indistinct] help the Kuwaiti people.

Embassy in Belgrade Rejects New Government

LD0608153490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1424 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Belgrade, August 6 (TANJUG)—The Kuwaiti Embassy in Belgrade today announced that it does not recognize any other government in Kuwait except the legal government of Kuwaiti Amir Jabir Ahmad al-Sabah.

In a statement to TANJUG, Kuwaiti ambassador to Belgrade Isa Ahmad said that the embassy rejects the decisions and stands of any other organ in Kuwait and regards them as illegal, unacceptable and non-binding.

The statement said that Kuwaitis refuse and reject the military aggression on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the state of Kuwait, that Kuwait will never accept a status quo and reconcile itself to the aggression. It adds that the aggression was not accepted by any Kuwaiti citizen and expresses belief that Kuwait will soon restore its freedom and independence.

The Kuwaiti Embassy expressed respect for the support and solidarity of all Yugoslav peoples and the Yugoslav Government towards the Kuwaiti people. It points out the importance of support to the Kuwaiti people from all parts of the world.

Eyewitness Reports on Border Situation

LD0608155490 Hamburg DPA in German 1502 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Manama (DPA)—Apparently there are no massed Iraqi troops along the coastal road from Kuwait to Saudi Arabia, but only a few Westerners are allowed

to pass the border. This was reported by a German eyewitness in Manama (Bahrain), who was able to make his way toward Saudi Arabia on Sunday [5 August] together with a Swedish citizen.

The 25-year-old engineer from the engineering company MTU [expansion unknown] confirmd to DPA that he had seen the Iraqi border post turn back at least one car with U.S. citizens. Kuwaitis, other Arabs, and Filipinos were apparently allowed to pass by the Iraqi soldiers. An Australian was also allowed to continue his journey.

"Along the coastal road groups of tanks and other vehicles were to be seen every now and again, but no massed units." the engineer said. Generally, the Iraqis were polite to foreigners. [passage omitted]

Emir Confers With Crown Prince

LD0608163390 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1533 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Jeddah, 6 Aug (SPA)—His Highness Shaykh Jabir al- Ahmad al-Sabah, the amir of the sister state of Kuwait, this afternoon received His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin 'Abd al- 'Aziz, the (Saudi) crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard. [passage omitted]

His Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin 'Abd al-'Aziz, the crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the national guard, left Jeddah this morning accompanied by their royal highnesses the princes and a number of officials. He was seen off at King 'Abd al- 'Aziz international airport by senior civilian and military officials.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin 'Abd al-'Aziz and the delegation accompanying him, which includes their royal highnesses the princes, returned to Jeddah late this afternoon.

Banks, Government Offices To Reopen 7 Aug

JN0608181390 (Clandestine) Provisional Free Kuwait Government Radio (Pro-Iraqi) in Arabic 1735 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Statement issued by 'provisional free Kuwait government'; place and date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Statement issued by the provisional free Kuwait government:

In view of the prevailing stability and security and the return to normalcy in Kuwait, it has been decided to begin official business in the government departments and in the banks and services in Kuwait as of tomorrow morning, Tuesday, 7 August 1990, corresponding to 16 Muharram 1411 Hegira.

Signed: Colonel 'Ala' Husayn 'Ali, prime minister of the provisional free Kuwait government

INA Reports Capital Returns to Normal

JN0608200590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Aug (INA)—Kuwaiti citizens, Arabs, and foreigners residing in Kuwait began practicing their normal, everyday lives, while the streets of the capital and other cities have witnessed tangible activity since the early hours today until 1930, the end of the time in which citizens are allowed to move freely.

The provisional free Kuwait government has asked workers in various services and important departments to report to work and carry out their normal duties.

The INA correspondent has noted that, compared with previous days, shopping activity in shops and stores decreased today, Monday, in view of the fact that security has prevailed on all aspects of life in the Kuwaiti capital.

Activity was witnessed all day in the major streets in the city, while citizens followed the radio and television programs to listen to the provisional free government's resolutions and instructions.

Ambassador Calls New Government 'Joke'

PM0708102790 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 6 Aug 90 p 5

[Zaki Shihab report: "Kuwaiti Ambassador in London Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: We Have Found Solutions To Facilitate Banking Transactions For Kuwaitis Abroad"]

[Excerpt] London—Responsible Kuwaiti sources in London have revealed that a number of positive solutions covering measures to facilitate the residence of Kuwaiti citizens in Gulf Cooperation Council states and banking transactions with Arab banks have been arrived at in consultation and coordination with several Arab ambassadors.

Kuwaiti Ambassador in London Ghazi al-Rayyis has told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that contacts are underway to increase flights between London and other Western capitals on one hand and the GCC capitals on the other to transport Kuwaiti families wishing to be near Kuwait.

Ambassador al-Rayyis said that Kuwait Airlines tickets were valid for use on Saudi Airlines planes and that the Kuwaiti Airlines was continuing its flights between GCC capitals.

Speaking about latest developments in Kuwait, the Kuwaiti ambassador said that resitance was continuing against the Iraqi invasion forces and that the latest reports spoke of an attack on the Iraqi forces headquarters in al-Jahra resulting in heavy losses.

He said that the Arab position on the developments was moving in the right direction with the influential Arab states taking clear and frank stands against the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait.

On the Kuwaiti community in Britain, Ambassador al-Rayyis said that in the summer the number of Kuwaitis in Britain reaches 25,000 and that the embassy has taken all necessary measures in cooperation with the GCC embassies and has been given maximum cooperation and support.

He said that some Iraqi families have already left London for GCC capitals and find themselves among brothers with homes open to them.

On the sick Kuwaitis and students in Britain, the Kuwait ambassador said that the embassy would do its duty to them and that they would not feel any change. He added that what happened in his country was a passing development that would not last long and would end with the cooperation of friendly states.

There are, he said, 500-700 students [in Britain] and the number of sick people does not exceed 200 including their companions.

He said that the embassy was preparing lists of names of Kuwaiti families and places they wish to go in the GCC countries to be near their own homeland and to seize any opportunity to return home.

On transactions between banks and Kuwaiti citizens, Ambassador Ghazi al-Rayyis said that effective today the banks will grant any request by anyone who has an account with them in Britain. This came after contacts made by a number of ambassadors who spared no effort to help, stating that the banks which are attached to the GCC states or deal with them have instructions to facilitate transactions for Kuwaitis.

The Kuwaiti ambassador described the new government as a joke and said that nobody believes its members to be Kuwaitis and that those members who are Kuwaitis were included without their knowledge.

Hundreds of Kuwaitis staged a demonstration in London at 1600 yesterday. [passage omitted]

Expatriates Cross Desert to Saudi Arabia

LD0708104490 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1105 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By Martin White, correspondent]

[Text] Britons are escaping from Iraqi forces now in control of Kuwait by fleeing across the desert, it emerged today.

One couple, who arrived at Heathrow today on a British Airways flight from Bahrain, said they had crossed the border to Saudi Arabia yesterday, but would not be drawn on the details.

"We don't want to say anything about our route because it might prevent others using it. Things are getting a lot worse for everybody and we are very concerned for the safety of the 3,000 Britons left in Kuwait. Many are our friends, and we are very worried," said the man, who declined to give his name.

"We have arranged to see the Foreign Office to tell them everything we know. It is very worrying," said the man who works in the oil industry.

Officials from the British Embassy in Saudi Arabia have been sent to the border area to help Britons coming into the country from Kuwait.

But the Foreign Office has refused to confirm reports that a steady flow of Britons has been crossing the border amid fears that the Iraqis may move to close the escape route.

A Kuwaiti business man on the same flight from Bahrain said the desert routes were continually in use.

The man, who also declined to give his name because of fear of reprisals to his family, said: "there are about 1,000 people a day in my estimation crossing the border to Saudi Arabia. But it is difficult, and you have to know the route."

He said many expatriates, including Britons and Canadians, were joining these convoys to escape the Iraqi forces, and the Canadians had embassy officials waiting in Saudi Arabia to greet their nationals.

The midle-aged Kuwaiti, who is now joining relatives in London, said he was in a group of 12 cars which took the desert route to safety only yesterday.

"The Saudi troops were there welcoming people. They took us back to a customs post for clearance and then let us into the country without visas or anything," he said.

"Conditions in the country are getting worse. Some Iraqi troops are looting private houses and shops. They particularly seem to want gold and jewellery. Cars are also being seized and Toyotas seem to be their favourite. It is very frightening."

When he left yesterday, the Iraqis were building up heavy armaments about three miles from the border with Saudi Arabia, and seemed to be showing no signs of withdrawing.

Yesterday another British family caught in the invasion said at Heathrow they were helped to flee along the desert route by Iraqi troops.

Oilfield technician Neil McDonald drove his wife Eleanor and two-year-old son Scott towards the border with Saudi Arabia, but was stopped six miles from the crossing point by soldiers.

They were checking passports and returning Kuwaitis back to Kuwait, but allowing expats out," said Mr. McDonald, who is from Kelso in the Scottish Borders.

"They were very friendly. We were stopped three or four times and never felt they had any argument with us."

Loyalist Radio Station Resumes Broadcasting

LD0708105790 Dubayy Domestic Service in English 1030 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] An underground radio station loyal to the al-Sabah family in Kuwait, ousted in last Thursday's Iraqi invasion but still recognized by Arab and Western states as the legitimate government, resumed its broadcasts today. After a four-day break, the station broadcast patriotic music.

Oman

Sultan Qabus Receives Letter From Saddam Husayn

JN0608145090 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus Ibn-Sa'id received 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, minister of local government in the Republic of Iraq, who gave him a letter from his brother His Excellency President Saddam Husayn.

Iran's Velayati, Qabus Discuss Gulf Crisis

LD0608223790 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati arrived in Salalah, Oman, this afternoon and was met by the foreign minister of that country, the Islamic Republic of Iran's ambassador in Oman. He then immediately met with Sultan Qabus.

The Central News Unit reports that during this meeting, Mr Velayati submitted a message from the president of our country concerning the latest developments in the Persian Gulf to Sultan Qabus. In this meeting, our country's foreign minister referred to the warm and friendly relations between Iran and Oman, stressed the need for a greater expansion of these relations, and explained the Islamic Republic of Iran's views concerning Iraq's aggression against Kuwait. He considers this aggression as a factor toward intensifying tension in the region and added: Ten years ago when the Iraqi regime attacked the Islamic Republic of Iran and occupied large areas of our country, we declared to the countries in the region and to all the world that silence in the face of aggression and force created a dangerous precedent, the consequences of which would also affect other countries. Today the truth of this matter is clear to everyone.

Mr. Velayati emphasized the principle of territorial integrity, national sovereignty, independence, and recognized borders, and said: The Iraqi aggression against Kuwait has prepared the ground for the presence of hegemonous powers in the Persian Gulf region. Our country's foreign affairs minister explained: Kuwait is a neighbor of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and we cannot accept any change in the maritime and land borders of Kuwait. We would consider any border changes as undermining our national security, and we are following up this issue with sensitivity and special care.

According to the Central News Unit, in this meeting Sultan Qabus expressed thanks for the message from Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani and for the presence of the Iranian delegation in Oman. He welcomed the stand adopted by the Islamic Republic of Iran vis-a-vis the latest developments in the region and considered Iraq's action in entering Kuwaiti territory as increasing tension in the region and as a violation of the sovereignty of independent Kuwait.

Sultan Qabus recounted his own efforts to prevent the occurence of these events and said: Unfortunately, some of the countries in the region, under the influence of propaganda and false information, imagined that the Islamic Republic of Iran would be a source of danger and tension, whereas recent events and the stands adopted by Islamic Republic of Iran under these delicate circumstances has demonstrated that these impressions were wrong and that good relations can be established between the Islamic Republic of Iran and countries in the region.

At the end of this meeting, Sultan Qabus described as essential and important the constructive cooperation between regional countries to establish security and stability in the region.

Saudi Arabia

King Fahd Meets With Richard Cheney in Jeddah

LD0608191390 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Excerpts] King Fahd Bin-'Abd Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, received in his office in Al-Salam Palace today His Excellency Richard Cheney, the U.S. secretary of defense, and the delegation accompanying him. [passage omitted]

Troops, U.S. Experts Move Into Neutral Zone

LD0608154190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1430 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, August 6 (TANJUG)—The latest reports from the Gulf confirmed that Saudi troops today entered the Neutral Zone where the borders of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq meet.

The reports claimed that Iraqi troops on Kuwait's territory are now only ten miles from Saudi forces.

The armies of two neighbouring countries facing each other at such close range are a new threat in the expansion of the Gulf conflict. Baghdad and Riyadh claim, however, that they do not wish any confrontation.

There have been no reports on the number of Saudi troops engaged in the entering of the Neutral Zone which basically belongs to Saudi Arabia. The zone is exceptionally rich in oil and has been leased by Saudi Arabia to Kuwait.

Presumably, a number of U.S. military experts also entered the Neutral Zone with the Saudi Troops. There are an estimated 2,000 U.S. military experts and four AWACS radar planes in Saudi Arabia.

Iraq is continuing mobilizing its army reserves army. [as received] The army commander of Baghdad Military District, president of the National Assembly Sa'di Mahdi Salih assessed that the people's army displayed great patriotic morale and readiness to defend the country and its Arab "brothers" in Kuwait.

Reports Denied

LD0608155390 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1533 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Jeddah, 6 Aug (SPA)—An official source today made a statement to the Saudi Press Agency denying reports carried by some Arab and Western media yesterday and this morning quoting Israeli radio and the German news agency that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has declared a general mobilization and has undertaken military movements in some border areas, in addition to another claim that a missile [Sarukh] had fallen in Saudi territory.

The source added that all these reports are totally unfounded and that if the Kingdom had taken any measures of this kind it would have certainly announced it at once.

King Greets Defense Minister on Return From Tour

LD0608214790 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2120 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 6 Aug (SPA)—The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin 'Abd al-Aziz al-Sa'ud, and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah bin 'abd al-'Aziz, the crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the national guard, greeted at the King 'Abd al-'Aziz international airport in Jeddah this evening His Royal Highness Prince Sultan bin 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, who was returning from abroad. [passage omitted]

Editorials Urge Arab Solidarity

AL-YAWM

JN0608150190 Al-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 4 Aug 90 p 1

[Editorial: "Arab Solidarity is a Pressing Demand"]

[Text] History has proven over many years that Arab solidarity is sincerely considered the sharpest weapon with which Arab states can confront their enemies, foil their evil plots and conspiracies, and overcome ordeals, crises and dangerous developments which may face them. If Arab solidarity is an essential demand of all Arab governments and peoples, then it is a more pressing demand amid any crisis or urgent situation.

We must realize and appreciate an important fact, which is that the entire Arab region is always a target, and that the dominating powers at all times compete over this region because of its strategic position, which is at the geographical center of the world. Thus it controls the channels of transportation and communication. The importance of the region has expanded in the current era because the Arab nation owns the world's largest oil reserve—considered the lifeline of contemporary life. This requires all Arab states to work sincerely to join ranks, strengthen their solidarity, forgo temporary differences, avoid slipping into sideline battles which only aim at exhausting Arab resources, scattering capabilities, and preoccupying themselves with unimportant issues while neglecting the essential ones—the nation's enemies.

This would give our enemies the opportunity to carry out their expansionist aims and dominate more Arab soil.

Hopes are tied to the contacts and consultations being carried out by the custodian of the two holy mosques and the Arab leaders to contain its negative events. Through God's will, and by the wisdom and ability of the Arab leaderhip to shoulder its responsibility, many urgent crises were overcome and relations restored in an attempt to attain the desired Arab solidarity.

'UKAZ

PM0708101390 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 4 Aug 90 p 7

[Editorial: "Reconciliation, Reconciliation... In Order To Deny Enemies The Opportunity"]

[Text] The Arab and Islamic nation has always gained its respect among the world's nations by turning to reason, giving predominance to logic, resolving its disputes amicably, and through its care for mutual cooperation and solidarity.

Islam has taught the nation to unite ranks, respect one another, and avoid marginal differences that waste its energies and squander its wealth.

In the past, at present, and at all times the Israeli enemy and all the enemies have always sought to sow the seeds of discord and division among the sons of the Arab and Islamic nation to achieve the following:

First, to spark off conflicts that lead to the squandering of resources;

second, to undermine the nation's unified position by creating disputes that would lead to division;

third, to preoccupy the nation with side conflicts that distract everyone from confrontation with the enemy;

fourth, to weaken the nation's military and economic capabilities so that it will not possess a big force in the face of any foreign aggression.

But, thank God, the Arab and Islamic nation has been able to expose the enemies' schemes and deny the covetous the opportunity.

And while all the world's states are now experiencing a period of stability due to international rapprochement and detente, the Arab and Islamic nation should be the first to benefit from that detente and reconciliation because it possesses the capabilities that can realize that.

The nation hopes that any marginal differences between the brothers will end for the sake of the higher interests, which must be placed above any personal or selfish considerations.

The nation always hopes that the Arab and Muslims will resolve their problems by themselves without any foreign interventions, because it is the Muslim Arab who is anxious to serve his nation's sons and seeks to spare them evil and dangers.

While they look forward to a bright tomorrow, the nation's sons hope that security, stability, peace, and prosperity will prevail everywhere, not only in our region but in the world as a whole.

We in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia—under the leadership of King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques—have always served, and will continue to serve, the nation. We have always worked, and will continue to work, to achieve its security and stability.

Furthermore, the custodian of the two holy mosques has always sought to strengthen solidarity, unite ranks, and clear the air. Just as his efforts achieved positive results in the past, there is great hope that his endeavors will, with God's help, be crowned with success in order to strengthen the nation's unity and resolve its marginal disputes.

And in order for the nation to benefit from the sincere efforts exerted by the Kingdom and by everyone who cares about the region's security and stability, reconciliation must be sped up, ranks must be closed, differences must be abandoned, and problems must be resolves in a spirit of amity and brotherhood in order to spare the region the evils of wars and foreign interventions.

Qatar

Iraqi Envoy Delivers Saddam Message to Amir

JN0608184390 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1735 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Doha, 6 Aug (INA)—'Ali Hasan al-Majid, President Saddam Husayn's envoy and [Iraqi] minister of local government, has delivered a message from his excellency to His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani, the amir of Qatar, dealing with bilateral relations and developments in the Arab arena. The message was delivered when the Qatari amir received the president's envoy in Doha today.

The meeting was attended by Shaykh Hamad Bin-Khalifah Al Thani, Qatar's heir apparent; Eng. Ahmad al-Subay'i, minister of housing and public works [title as received]; and the Iraqi ambassador in Doha.

The president's envoy later left Doha within the framework of a tour that will take him to a number of other Arabian Gulf states.

Amir Receives Iranian, Turkish Leaders Messages

JN0708101890 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0930 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Doha, 7 Aug (WAKH)—Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani has received a message from Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani dealing with the current situation in the region and bilateral relations. Iranian Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati delivered the message when the Qatari amir received him here today.

The Iranian minister arrived in Doha today.

His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani also received a message from Turkish President Turgut Ozal.

The QATARI NEWS AGENCY said that the message deals with bilateral relations and means of promoting them, in addition to the current situation in the region.

Qatari Foreign Minister Mubarak al-Khatir received the message when he met with the Turkish Charge d'Affaires to Qatar Burlan Lan [name as received].

Foreign Minister Leaves for Jeddah GCC Meetings

JN0708102490 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0955 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Doha, 7 Aug (WAKH)—Qatari Foreign Minister Mubarak al-Khatir left Doha today for Jeddah, in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Al-Khatir leads Qatar's delegation to the emergency meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] foreign ministers due to begin there later today.

United Arab Emirates

President, King Husayn Discuss Kuwait 'Crisis'

JN0608171590 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1420 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 Aug (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin- Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the

United Arab Emirates [UAE], received a telephone call today from King Husayn Ibn-Talal, the Jordanian monarch.

WAM [Emirates News Agency] has said that the two leaders exchanged views on developments in the region and on efforts under way to tackle the Iraqi-Kuwaiti crisis.

Paper Says Regional Unrest in Israel's Interest

JN0608233490 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 6 Aug 90 p 1

[Editorial: "Israel Is Lying in Wait"]

[Text] It goes without saying that any disturbances or unrest in the region will be in the interest of Israel, which is the primary threat to the Arab nation.

The Israeli cabinet met yesterday to discuss a basic and central point; namely, how to take advantage of the current state of affairs. The enemy government discussed the strategic situation after Iraqi forces entered Kuwait.

The meeting was attended by military experts and intelligence officers, which indicates that something is being hatched by the Zionist entity to fish in the troubled waters and use the developments to carry out a new operation against neighboring Arab countries.

The Israelis know they can seize this opportunity to intensify their expansionist and settlement policy and continue their aggression against Arab lands and rivers. The regrettable developments distract attention from Israel's plans for expansion and swallowing up of further Arab lands.

We must fully understand the plots being planted by the Israeli enemy. It is is making use of the fact that all efforts are now focused on the successive developments in the region.

Paper Says Saddam Planned Invasion for Years

BK0408113690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1043 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 4 (AFP)—Iraq's invasion of neighbouring Kuwait was planned by Baghdad as far back as 1986, a Pakistani daily reported Saturday.

"Operation Kuwait" was given final touches when the emir of the tiny Gulf sheikhdom dissolved the parliament four years ago, said the JANG daily, quoting well-informed diplomatic sources.

Iraq at the time called the move "a foreign conspiracy to ruin Kuwait."

Some Kuwaiti MPs condemned the dissolution of parliament and described it as a bid to stifle "those raising voices against the high-handedness of the ruling clique," the newspaper said.

The Urdu language daily said soon after the parliamentary crisis, Iraq's socialist Baath Party and the ruling Revolutionary Council set up a secret group to execute Operation Kuwait.

The blueprint of the plan was personally handled by President Saddam Husayn through his deputy 'Izzat Ibrahim. Members of the secret group were taken into confidence only on partial details of the plan, the report said.

It said that after the 1989-1988 Iran-Iraq war, Baghdad stepped up contacts with the former Kuwaiti MPs and the dissidents' movement gathered strength, leading Iraq to implement its plan on Thursday.

Independent confirmation of the report was not immediately available.

NPPF Sends Cable to 'Provisional Government'

JN0408155990 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1450 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Aug (INA)—Hasan 'Ali, secretary general of the National Progressive and Patriotic Front [NPPF], has sent a cable to the provisional free Kuwait government stressing that the NPPF is ready to support the government. The cable says:

Your glorious national revolution, which has restored fraternal Kuwait's genuine Arab face and ended the government of agentry, treachery, and tyranny, has pleased us. The NPPF in the Republic of Iraq congratulates you and the fraternal Kuwaiti people on their glorious uprising against the symbols of tyranny, oppression, and exploitation—symbols that have tried to link Arab Kuwait's interests with imperialist-Zionist policies and interests that conflict with Kuwait's national and pan-Arab interests and with the proud Kuwaiti people's will.

The NPPF in Iraq stresses its total and unlimited support for you and for your great revolution of liberation. It also expresses its readiness to defend fraternal Kuwait's security, safety, and independence. Forward march!

AL-JUMHURIYAH Rejects Imperialist 'Slander'

JN0508135390 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0615 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Aug (INA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH has said that the proclamation yesteday of the provisional free Kuwait government is the best evidence confirming the mendacity of the imperialist and Zionist circles' slander about the reality of the changes in the fraternal country.

In its editorial today, the newspaper asserts that it is a stupid and aimless act by the veteran politicians of imperialism and Zionism to portray the Kuwaiti revolution as an artificial occurrence imposed from without. It said that its causes, methods, and tools are all internal. The Iraqi role was merely that of honest support that no one had dared extend to our kinfolk in Kuwait except the zealous Arab knight Saddam Husayn.

The paper stresses that what took place in Kuwait was a surprise only to the corrupt Al Sabah clique and their imperialist protectors. At a time when this clique was being reassured that it had authority, wealth, and the umbrella of its protectors, Kuwait was seething with ill feelings toward them, and the free men of Kuwait were making preparations for the awaited day of salvation.

The paper explains that the Kuwait revolution was not an accidental occurrence, but the product of a seed that grew for many years—and kept growing—before the eyes of the Al Sabah family. But this family did not view it seriously or realized how deep were its roots. It was unaware of the force it would engender and the fruit it would bear with the passing of days.

The paper adds that those dwarfs had gone too far in their tyranny and their corruption, and had given themselves a free hand into the people's funds and wealth. Thus, they took what they managed to pillage and lavish on their mercenaries, while the majority of the people barely eked out a living in an environment of luxurious spending, despite all the false boasting about per capita income and standard of living.

At the same time, these dwarfs were investing incredible amounts of money in countries hostile to the Arab nation, foremost the United States and Britain, and flooding Kuwait with all races of people behind various facades. They were also tightening the noose around the Arab citizen's neck to the extent of enslaving him. They were avoiding investing in impoverished Arab countries which were in pressing need of simple investments in order to reenergize their economy. Moreover, their miserliness even prevented them from granting these Arab countries some modest loans not exceeding 1/10 of their profits from foreign investment. When these dwarfs granted an Arab a loan, it happened after persistent calls and delay and under many conditions. If they finally

granted an Arab a loan, they would make a big deal about it through false propaganda, talking about their "pan-Arab stands."

The paper adds: All these facts generated sorrow in the hearts of the honest people of Kuwait, nurtured the seed of revolution in their breasts, and motivated them to step up their public and secret national struggle, while the dwarf family of Al Sabah believed that by dissolving a national council, closing down diwaniyahs, arresting people, making threats, and falsifying elections, they could kill the tree of revolution, weaken its roots, or isolate it in a neglected corner of Kuwaiti life.

AL-JUMHURIYAH goes on to say: Reality soon gave the lie to these dwarfs and their protectors. Once the opportunity was made available to the free men of Kuwait, who found in their Iraqi brothers an honest supporter, they swooped on the flimsy rule created by imperialism and dealt it a severe blow which cast out the clique of Al Sabah—with no chance to return.

The paper refutes the objectives and aims of the campaign of distortion launched by imperialist and Zionist circles and their proteges on the reality of the Kuwaiti kinsfolk's uprising. It adds that these circles attempted to cast doubts about the existence of this government since the first day of the revolution was declared, in order to justify their slander, provide a pretext for intervention in Kuwait's affairs, and punish its free men, and in order to distort the noble pan-Arab role carried out by Iraq. They also wanted to create a novel reason to step up the hostile political and media campaign against Iraq, and to effect, along with this campaign, unjust measures to harm Iraq's economic interests.

French Sanctions Provoke Sharp Iraqi Warning

AU0608125690 Paris AFP in English 1143 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Paris, Aug 6 (AFP)—France's decision to impose sanctions against Iraq "can only harm France's huge interests in Iraq", Baghdad's ambassador 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Hashimi warned here Monday. "Iraq views with deep regret and surprise the position taken by the French government," he told a press conference, reading a prepared statement in English. "This position can only harm France's huge interests in Iraq not only at present but more significantly in the future."

France was instrumental in the 12-nation European Economic Community's decision last Saturday to bar arms supplies to Iraq and embargo imports of its oil, following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

The ambassador said efforts to impose sanctions against Iraqi and Kuwaiti assets and trade were "futile" and "only exacerbate and complicate the situation. We believe that such sanctions will in the long run be damaging to the very countries imposing them". He said Iraqi forces had entered Kuwait "at the invitation of the country's new interim free government, which had approached Iraq for assistance to maintain law and order". Having helped to maintain order, those forces had started to withdraw on Sunday in accordance with a timetable, "and not as a result of any pressure generated here or there." But their withdrawal "may well be disrupted by any threats that may arise to both Kuwait and Iraq," Mr. Hashimi said. "As we begin to implement this decision, we warn against any attempt by any power to aggress against Kuwait or Iraq. Such attempts will be firmly dealt with."

The ambassador said Iraq was aware "that certain quarters in the world would jump at any chance to intensify division in the Arab world, particularly between such important countries as Iraq and Saudi Arabia. "Iraq therefore wishes to stress the unfounded nature of the reports suggesting that Iraq has any designs against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with which we maintain strong fraternal relations and which can in no way be confused with Kuwait where there has been a change of government and from which we have received an appeal for help".

Mr. Hashimi said it was an illusion to think the overthrown Kuwaiti leadership might be restored. "The old regime of the Sabah family is finished," he said.

In London, Iraqi Ambassador 'Azmi Shafiq al-Salihi read out the same statement criticizing Britain in place of France. He was summoned to the British Foreign Office Monday to discuss the security of Britons in Kuwait, and the 35 British military advisers being detained in Baghdad.

Broadens Embargo to Include Goods

AU0608192090 Paris AFP in English 1854 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Paris, Aug 6 (AFP)—France broadened its embargo on buying Iraqi oil to include all merchandise and announced that a shipment of Iraqi oil headed for a French port will have to go elsewhere.

The embargo on transporting all merchandise between France and Iraq and Kuwait was announced by the Sea Minister, Jacques Mellick. "No merchandise is excluded" from the ban, he said.

The shipment of 200,000 tonnes of Iraqi oil, loaded a month ago at the Saudi port of Yanbu and carried by a Shell tanker, was expected at Le Havre in mid-August but will be denied permission to dock, the officials said.

Embassy in Madrid Assails Spanish Stance

LD0608195790 Madrid in Spanish to Europe 1930 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] The Iraqi Embassy in Madrid has issued a communique in which it expresses its deep sorrow and surprise at the reaction of the Spanish Government in condemning the invasion of Kuwait by Iraqi forces. The text of the Iraqi communique emphasizes that the economic sanctions adopted by the EC last weekend against

the Baghdad regime will only complicate and aggravate the situation and will turn against the countries which have imposed them. The communique justifies the invasion by explaining that President Saddam Husayn's forces did no more than respond to the appeal of the new free provisional government of Kuwait and it warns about any threat of aggression which may arise, to which there will be a firm response.

Ambassador Warns Italy of Damage To Interests

AU0708093490 Rome ANSA in English 0806 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] (ANSA) Rome—Iraq (?looks with deep) regret and surprise upon the position adopted by the Italian Government with regard to the situation in Kuwait, according to the Iraqi ambassador to Rome, Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf, during a press conference held here Monday. He also said this position could damage Italy's present and future interests.

Then, speaking more generally of reactions worldwide to the Iraqi military intervention in Kuwait, the ambassador said the efforts underway to impose economic and trade sanctions against Iraq and Kuwait, while vain and mutually damaging, could only exacerbate and complicate the situation.

The statements made by the diplomat more or less echoed the line taken over past days by the Baghdad (?Government).

Iraqi forces, he said, entered Kuwait at the invitation of the free provisional government there which had asked for help in maintaining law and order.

A timetable for the withdrawal of Iraqi troops will be the subject of discussion between the Iraqi and Kuwaiti Governments, in accordance with the commitment made with the August 2, 1990 resolution of the Revolutionary Command Council, and not in response to any pressure (?applied) here and there, the ambassador continued.

Furthermore, he said, the withdrawal could be halted at any time should Iraq or Kuwait [words indistinct].

Winding up his statements, the Baghdad representative in Rome issued a warning (?to the) international community.

Should there be any governments which still believe that the toppled regime in Kuwait could be restored to power and thus compensate or reward them for their support, let them know that they are deluding themselves, the ambassador said.

The old regime of the al-Sabah family is over and Kuwait now has a new government, he emphasized.

Arab League Resolution Called Inconsequential

JN0608155890 Baghdad INA in English 1500 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, Aug 6, INA—AL-JUMHURIYAH daily for today said in an article that on the 3rd of the current month the Arab League's Council adopted a decision calling Iraq to pull out its troops that entered Kuwait in response to a request from the interim government of Kuwait. The resolution repeated some terms and descriptions mentioned by the American, Western and Zionist media with regard to the Iraqi noble initiative for protecting the security of Kuwait and Iraq which is indivisible from the entire Arab security.

The said resolution was opposed by five member states of the Arab League, namely, Jordan, the Yemen Republic, Mauritania, the Sudan and the State of Palestine while the Libyan foreign minister refused to take part in the meeting.

What surprises is that the said resolution depended, among a number of articles of the Arab League Charter, on text of the 6th article of the Charter that dictates consensus of the member states concerning any resolution of the League's Council, which means in this case, that this is a nugatory resolution and no consequences are to be entailed by it.

The paper has further said what has happened in Kuwait is an internal affair in the first place and it is an affair concerning the national Kuwaitis and the free Arabs who have revolted against the rulers from al-Sabah family who have conducted corruption and plundered Kuwait's riches which are originally Arab wealths.

Iraq's national response for the call of the Kuwaiti Provisional Government was based on requirements of preserving the Arab national security and in interest of the Arab nation in particular in addition to its being a precaution against any aggressive adventure that may be carried out by this foreign party or that in the way threatening the Arab nation as a whole and draw it into new atmosphere of tension and real dangers.

Members of the Arab League Council should have dealt with Iraq through its being a member of the Arab League and not an external party as the manner of their meeting and their resolution implied, because Iraq, which has faced and still is facing the aggressive conspiracies and impudent threats by Zionist and their circles and by imperialist, is the same Iraq that fought and protected the Arab homeland against more than one external aggression, and it is the same Iraq which believes in principles and goals of the Arab nation and her sublime values.

Arms Reportedly Being Distributed in Baghdad

LD0608161290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1518 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 6 Aug (TANJUG)—The streets of Baghdad have today been unusually deserted and

without traffic jams. Such atmosphere in the Iraqi capital is a result of the recruitment of new reservists and city evacuation drills. According to unconfirmed sources, arms are being distributed to members and sympathizers of the ruling regional Arab Ba'th Socialist Party. This leads to the conclusion that the Iraqi Government is seriously anticipating a further exacerbation of the situation in the Gulf. [passage omitted]

The news from Kuwait is scarce. It has been reliably confirmed however, that with the occupation the situation in this country has become increasingly complicated. It is claimed that there is evidence of water and food shortages. The temperature in Kuwait at this time of the year is about 40 degrees celsius.

Saddam Message to Bush Stresses Saudi 'Security'

JN0608163890 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1608 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn today received the U.S. charge d'affaires in Baghdad and conveyed through him an oral message to U.S. President George Bush on bilateral relations and the current situation in the region. The leader president explained in his message Iraq's position on the recent events and developments and warned against any practices that may endanger the region's security and stability.

Leader President Saddam Husayn stressed Iraq's firm willingness to maintain security and stability in the region, its respect for the legitimate international interests therein, and its concern for the security and safety of the region's countries. At the same time he asserted that Iraq is able to protect its sovereignty, interests, and rights and that its readiness to make sacrifices for them is high and limitless, no matter what the pressure or the threats.

Leader President Saddam Husayn also stressed Iraq's interest in establishing normal relations with the United States on the basis of mutual respect.

On the allegations that Iraqi forces have approached Saudi borders, leader President Saddam Husayn underscored the depth of the fraternal relationship betwen Iraq and Saudi Arabia and stressed that the security of Saudi Arabia is part of Iraq's security, since they are two fraternal Arab countries. Iraq and Saudi Arabia are two parties to a treaty of nonaggression and noninterference in internal affairs, he noted, stressing that Iraq respects its obligations.

The leader president pointed out that these fabrications are meant as pretexts to interfere in the region's affairs and justify an aggression against Iraq. The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Saddam Visits Foreign Ministry; Received by 'Aziz

JN0608214090 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Leader President Saddam Husayn today visited the Foreign Ministry. His excellency was received and seen off by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Commentary Reacts to U.S. Gulf Maneuvers

LD0608210490 Baghdad International Service in English 2000 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] This is Radio Baghdad, the broadcasting service of the Iraqi republic. Welcome, dear listeners, to our commentary.

Iraqi Armed Forces began yesterday its pullout from Kuwait after they had finished their national duty with high discipline and efficiency. Thus Iraq fulfilled its promise and proved its great credibility and its serious adherence to its decisions.

The American Administration is trying under the current international changes to impose its domination on the Arab Gulf area. Since the revolution in Kuwait on 2 August and Iraq's support for it the American Administration is threatening us with military intervention and closely coordinating with its allies to impose economic and non-economic sanctions on Iraq, thinking that such measures and threats will prevent Iraq from fulfilling its national duty to support the revolution of Kuwait.

The past regime in Kuwait has gone without any return and stability has prevailed all Kuwait. [sentence as heard] All enemies of the Arab nation must understand that the interests and security of Iraq and Kuwait are one. All lessons of history say clearly that the will of people is the strongest and it always scores victory.

Saddam Envoy Carries Message to Algiers

JN0608215090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1955 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Algiers, 6 Aug (INA)—Muhammad Hamzah, minister of transport and communications and President Saddam Husayn's envoy to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, arrived here this evening.

The president's envoy is carrying a message dealing with the latest developments in the Arab region.

Envoy to Bahrain, Qatar, Oman Returns 6 Aug

JN0608233890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1915 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Aug (INA)—'Ali Hasan al-Majid, President Saddam Husayn's envoy and minister of local government, returned to Baghdad this evening following a tour that took him to Bahrain, Qatar, and Oman.

The presidential envoy told INA that during his tour he delivered messages from President Saddam Husayn to his brothers, the leaders of the three countries. The messages, he said, dealt with current Arab and international conditions.

Envoy to Yemen Delivers Saddam Message, Returns

JN0708060290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2129 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Aug (INA)—President Saddam Husayn's envoy National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih returned to Baghdad today following a visit to Yemen during which he conveyed a message from the president to his brother Lieutenant General 'Ali Abdallah Salih, Yemeni Preseidential Council chairman. The message deals with fraternal relations between the two sisterly countries and the exchange of views on the latest developments on the Arab arena. (endall) 0621229 rs/ms/welch/em 07/0608z aug rw080708.04

Ibrahim Leaves on 'Official' Visit to Egypt

JN0708110090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1051 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA)—'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council, left Baghdad today on an official visit to Egypt.

He was seen off at the airport by a number of ministers and the Egyptian ambassador in Baghdad.

Saddam To Attack If Saudi Pipelines Closed

NC0708114490 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1105 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Iraq, which declared a maximum state of alert yesterday as a precaution for any military action against its territory, today threatened to attack Saudi Arabia if it shuts down Iraqi oil pipelines that pass through its territory. Iraq stressed that in such a case its withdrawal from Kuwait would be irreversible. The Iraqi threat came after a U.S. diplomat's visit to Baghdad, but the White House refused to comment until President Bush meets the U.S. diplomat.

AL-SAFIR has reported that the Iraqi President told King Husayn that his forces will mine the Kuwaiti oil installations and will strike Saudi oil installations with missiles if any attack is launched against its territory.

Spokesman Rebuts Report

JN0708092490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0855 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA)—Commenting on THE WASHINGTON POST's report on Tuesday on President Saddam Husayn's meeting with the U.S. charge d'affaires yesterday—whose objective is to create confusion, intrigues, and to split ranks, an authorized official spokesman has said: The U.S. paper claimed that the president told the U.S. diplomat that Iraq will attack Saudi Arabia if that country closes the Iraqi oil pipeline passing through its territory. The spokesman said: This issue was not discussed at all during the president's meeting with the charge d'affaires. Regarding relations between Iraq and Saudi Arabia with regard to Iraq's view and intentions, they were described in the news item that was broadcast from Baghdad on this meeting.

The spokesman stressed that the paper's claim implies a clear malicious intention. The spokesman said that we do not believe that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia would cut off oil passing through its territory because this would inflict serious harm on Iraq and there is nothing that could justify such an action.

Harm to Iraq, Kuwait To Be Returned 'Manifold'

JN0708093290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0600 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA)—AL-JUMHURIYAH has warned imperialist and Zionist forces against any harm either to Iraq or Kuwait, saying such harm will be returned manifold.

In today's editorial, the paper says: When the men of the al-Qadisiyah in Iraq embraced the Kuwaiti revolution they were fully aware of their duty. They took the first step, considered all possibilities, and decided to cut off the arm of anyone who attempts to harm Kuwait or Iraq.

The paper adds: It does not bother us to see the trumpets of imperialism, Zionism, and their lackeys in the region bemoaning the corrupt al-Sabah clique, which has a dubious lineage. Their tears are crocodile tears that are being shed for collaborators who served British colonialism and U.S. imperialism from father to son. Now the revolution has swept them away. Thus, imperialism and Zionism have lost a major base.

Let these trumpets say whatever they want about what they term Iraqi interference in Kuwaiti affairs. Iraq does not need anyone's permission to intervene in order to support the Kuwaiti revolutionaries. It would have intervened to support this revolution even if it had not been asked to do so.

Kuwait is part of Iraqi territory that was severed at some point in the past. The Iraqis and the Kuwaitis are one family united by a common destiny.

The paper describes the al-Sabah family as nothing but the remnants of the Salabah race. This race has no definite lineage. It was established by the British in Kuwait, who set up a paper and fragile entity for it. They appointed their sons as amirs a few years ago, despite Iraqi objection, opposition, rejection, and demands.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says: By severing Kuwait from Iraqi territory, the British occupation authorities wanted to weaken Iraq by depriving it of territory overlooking the Arabian Gulf that would strengthen its pan-Arab security and give it flexibility of movement and also to

put a part of its petroleum resources outside the will of its population and its will to confront the occupation's ambitions. Thus the al-Sabah family was an obedient and cheap tool for achieving all this. However, the al-Sabah family has collapsed like a house of cards and Kuwait is discarding its disguise at the hands of its loyal sons. Iraq and its sons stand as a solid support and the Arab knight Saddam Husayn pledges protection without paying any attention to the big fuss created by the leaders of imperialism and their lackeys and mercenaries.

Al-JUMHURIYAH stresses that the people of Iraq and Kuwait are stronger than imagined by those with dirty tongues and that they are prepared to make great sacrifices for the sake of the nation's honor and dignity. When the youth of Kuwait revolted and the men of al-Qadisiyah in Iraq embraced their revolt, they were fully aware of their tasks and what they stand for. They know that by their action they ousted the principal collaborators of imperialism and Zionism. The imperialists and Zionists will lose their minds. They will use all their weapons and venom. Nevertheless, the Iraqis and the Kuwaitis are determined. They took the first step, considered all possibilities, and decided to cut off the arm of anyone who attempts to harm Iraq and Kuwait. Iraq will not be bothered by all the unfair resolutions and idiotic measures that have been taken so far and that will be taken in the future. Everyone should rest assured that the enemies are gambling with their interests and future because any harm done to Iraq or Kuwait will be returned manifold. However, those who respect the will, interests, and rights of the masses in Iraq and Kuwait will gain similar respect.

Arens on Prediction of, Reaction to Invasion

TA0408081190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0705 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by Army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Menashe] Defense Minister Moshe Arens, in the light of the past three days and the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, has the Iraqi threat to Israel become more tangible, turning Israel into a primary Iraqi strategic target?

[Arens] I think Israel is not a primary Iraqi strategic target even though there is not a shadow of a doubt in my mind that Saddam Husayn will not be happy merely with the conquest of Kuwait, just as he was not satisfied with his victory over Iran. He will seek additional targets. He has a large army and an insatiable appetite. His aspirations are limitless, but he knows that Israel is not Kuwait or even Saudi Arabia. I have full faith in our ability not only to defeat him, should he entertain thoughts of provoking us, but also to deter him. I believe he knows it will not be worth his while to play with us.

[Menashe] You drew an analogy between Hitler and Saddam Husayn. Hitler, as everyone knows, went on after conquering the Sudetenland and reached all of Europe.

[Arens] I think those of us who are old enough to remember it cannot but recall Hitler's conduct in Europe in the 1930's when we observe Iraq's Saddam Husayn's behavior. The worship of power, the threats, the absence of any inhibition from employing force, the readiness to go to war when thinking that political gains can be made, the lying—he, after all, claimed that the Iranians attacked him first, and now he argues that the Kuwaitis invited him—these are precisely the kinds of formulas used in Mein Kampf or elsewhere in Hitler's history. Maybe he should be called a little Hitler, for there is no absolute identity in this case, but that we have here a leader dangerous for the well-being of the region—even, I would say, for world peace—is beyond any doubt.

[Menashe] Do you believe that he will continue to attack additional countries?

[Arens] I believe that the challenge to the world right now is for the community at large to organize and inform Saddam Husayn in no uncertain terms that he will not be permitted to pursue the drive to conquer neighboring countries.

[Menashe] Was the Israeli intelligence community surprised by the invasion of Kuwait?

[Arens] I am only prepared to speak for myself: I was not surprised. It is not that I could give you the exact timing of the invasion beforehand, but as you will recall, already about two weeks ago I said that the likelihood has increased that a war could erupt in the region. I think it took no genius or prophet to foresee this and state as much, because we simply witnessed Saddam Husayn's conduct, so that while there is shock over his brutal aggressiveness, in Israel—that is, in the defense establishment and as far as I am personally concerned—I believe there was no surprise.

[Menashe] Still, the Americans were surprised. Even though U.S. forces were stationed in the region, the Americans erred in their estimation—upheld until the very last moment—that Saddam Husayn would not attack.

[Arens] I think this may be a case of what is called in English wishful thinking [previous two words in English], where people judged on the basis of their desires and hopes, refusing to acknowledge the cruel and ugly reality head on or to read the Saddam Husayn map as it really is despite all the evidence that was there for all to see. Let me add in the same breath that it is extremely difficult to predict the acts of a man such as Saddam Husayn merely on the basis of intelligence or satellite information or newspaper reports. When Iraq decides to go to war, this is one man's decision. The invasion of Kuwait was the decision of a single man: Saddam Husayn.

[Menashe] This means that the Americans' assessment was wrong.

[Arens] I think the Americans themselves would be unable to argue with your logic; I am simply trying to explain the background for the mistake which is so understandable because, whereas in other countries there is something called a constitutional process requiring parliamentary approval for such an act, there is the press and an opposition, arguments and deliberations, and sometimes leaks—all this is absent in Iraq. One man may decide to go to war, and that is what they do.

[Menashe] The United States has frozen Iraqi assets; the USSR has stopped arms shipments. Is there no need for Israel to take some action? Where are the red lines, if any?

[Arens] As you must know, there are no Iraqi assets in Israel, nor are there any Kuwaiti assets in Israel, so that we cannot use this tool. There is no question that we would have employed this means if this were possible. We are prepared and ready. We are strong, with a manifest deterrent capability. That is why we can definitely protect our interests. Kuwait is located approximately 1,200 km from Israel, meaning no geostrategic change from Israel's standpoint. We will probably have to pay more for oil, same as everyone else, as a result of the rise in oil prices stemming from Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, but once we determine that we are facing a geostrategic change or that one would occur—for example, if the Iraqi Army enters Jordan—we will act. This has been Israel's policy for years.

[Menashe] Military sources have said that it appears that Saddam Husayn is testing the world, and that the lack of any substantial reaction to speak of shows him that the use of brute force is the name of the game in the Middle East. Do you think the U.S. reaction was sufficient?

[Arens] I think the entire world's reaction was deficient, and I include the United States as well. We need only go

back to the practice used during the Iraq-Iran war and the massive deployment of chemical weapons, not only against Iranian troops but also against Kurdish civilians, to see that by using chemical weapons Saddam Husayn violated an Iraqi undertaking: Iraq had signed the 1925 Geneva Convention banning the use of chemical weapons. He committed these horrible crimes with impunity. One could have expected that the whole world, the entire civilized world, would rise on its feet and make sure that he does not do that again, but this did not happen. When he threatened Israel with chemical weapons just recently I, as foreign minister, then summoned the ambassadors of the United States, Japan, and West European countries and told them that unless an effective reaction was forthcoming, he would interpret their silence as tacit acceptance. This time, too, I think it is absolutely imperative that the international community react effectively so that he knows he would not be able to repeat what he has just done.

[Menashe] What do you mean when you say an effective reaction: Do you think there is room for military action against Iraq as well?

[Arens] Let me first of all emphasize that over the years, including after the Iraq-Iran war and his use of chemical weapons, Iraq and Saddam Husayn still received extensive aid from Western countries. Among the best aircraft in his Air Force are French planes equipped with French weapons and bombs, in some of the long-range bombardments he carried out he used French weapons, and he obtained assistance from other countries to build his chemical capability. Now he is trying to achieve nuclear capability and is being helped by other countries—not foreign governments, but certainly scientists, technicians, and companies in Europe—so that the leverage the world has on him is, I would say, rather substantial, both economically and politically; Iraq can be isolated both economically and politically, and things can be dictated to it even before military moves are contemplated. I would think that these would be the measures that should be taken at once.

[Menashe] What about the political and strategic implications? The assessment is that the invasion of Kuwait is good for Israel only in the short term.

[Arens] I do not think that the war, or the invasion of Kuwait, is good for Israel. As I said before, like everyone else we too will have to pay more dearly for oil. This is not beneficial to us either in the short term or in the long term.

[Menashe] Has Israel offered the United States cooperation in the measures against Iraq? Have you met, among others, with U.S. military elements on the matter?

[Arens] No, I have not held such meetings. We maintain weekly, sometimes daily, contacts with the Americans. The fabric of relations is very rich and broad.

[Menashe] Did this issue of the invasion of Kuwait ever feature in your contacts?

[Arens] The invasion of Kuwait was not discussed explicitly or at any great length, and as I told you we maintain almost daily contact over a lot of issues.

[Menashe] Did you never offer the Americans any help?

[Arens] We were not asked to do that and we did not offer it.

[Menashe] Foreign Minister David Levi leaves for the United States. What message will he transmit to the Americans in the defense sphere?

[Arens] I think he will be able to relay the message I delivered to U.S. Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney when I visited Washington two weeks ago, namely, that precisely now with the decreased East-West tension and reduced U.S. military presence in Europe, the strategic links between Israel and the United States are even more important than before, certainly for Israel, but I believe also for the United States.

[Menashe] Thank you, Defense Minister Moshe Arens.

Two Israeli Youths Kidnapped, Killed in Jerusalem

TA0608133890 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 16 Aug 90

[Text] The bodies of Ronen Karamani and Li'or Tubul, the two youths missing since Saturday night [4 August], were found about one hour ago south of the road leading from Jerusalem's Ramot neighborhood to Bayt Hanina. Our correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that the teenagers were stabbed many times in the back, and the kidnappers tied their hands and stuffed their mouths with rags. It is still not clear when they were murdered, but there is one theory that it was last night.

The police commissioner called on the public to remain cool and said the police are on alert to prevent reprisals.

The Knesset Alignment faction expressed shock at the inhuman, despicable, and frightening act. Shevah Weiss, the acting faction chairman, told our correspondent Yo'el Nir that such acts deepen hatred and make the process for a dialogue more difficult because it also murders peace. The Alignment faction calls on Arab leaders in the territories to do everything to prevent such dastardly acts in the future.

Likud Knesset Member [MK] Yehoshu'a Matza, the chairman of the Knesset Interior Committee, said the Palestinians' terrorist actions, including the kidnapping and murder of children, receive encouragement from political meetings such as those yesterday between MK's from the Alignment and the small leftist parties, and Palestinians identified with the PLO.

The acting chairman of the Ramot neighborhood residents committee plans to meet with the Jerusalem police

commander to call on him to increase street lighting and remove the nearby Bedouin encampment.

The Citizens Rights Movement [CRM] also expressed deep shock and called on Palestinian leaders in the territories and all men of goodwill there to aid in the capture of the murderers. The CRM said that the stabbing of innocent people by Palestinians in the past and now is the main enemy of conciliation between the two peoples.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1230 GMT on 6 August adds: "Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has expressed his shock over the murder, saying that the failure of the Palestinian population to denounce terror and expel those engaging in it from their midst casts a serious doubt on their ability to advance toward peace with Israel. Netanyahu called on the responsible Arab leadership to disassociate itself from terror."]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1300 GMT on 16 August adds that "the Israel Defense Forces imposed a curfew on the village of Bayt Hanina near the spot where the bodies of the two teenagers were found this afternoon." The Jerusalem Police commander said the army is conducting searches in Bayt Hanina and nearby villages.]

Arens Condemns Iraqi Attack, Jerusalem Murders

TA0708104090 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0942 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Address to the Knesset by Defense Minister Moshe Arens during the extraordinary plenary debate on the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the murder in Jerusalem of two youths; in Jerusalem—live]

[Text] We should remember Li'or Tubul and Ronen Karamani, the Lord avenge their blood, who were murdered in Jerusalem. We would have liked to believe that the assassins are individuals who do not enjoy any support among the Arab population in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. Any civilized person should denounce this criminal murder, but to my regret, Knesset Members, I have heard only a few condemnations by the Arab population of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. In contrast, I heard applause from Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza Strip residents for Saddam Husayn and his takeover of Kuwait, and said to myself that whoever supports the murder of a country might also support the murder of a boy.

Mr. Speaker, Knesset members: During the night, on 2 August, Iraq invaded Kuwait. The invasion involved a combination of land forces, landing from the air in the capital area, and a blockade from the sea. An announcement was publicized in Iraq, explaining that the free provisional government of Kuwait had invited Iraq against what was termed the treacherous regime of Kuwait. The invasion of Kuwait brings back bleak memories of another tyrant in the 1930's. The violence, the threats, the false policy, and the lack of hesitation to achieve his goals through military means—all of this indicates that Saddam Husayn is a little Hitler, a leader who endangers the peace of the region and perhaps that of the entire world too. It is the second time that Saddam Husayn, the Iraqi leader, initiated a military move against one of his neighbors. Saddam Husayn attacked Iran and claimed that Iran had attacked Iraq. Now he attacked Kuwait, claiming he had been invited by the Kuwaitis. These, Mr. Speaker, are allegations which are reminiscent of the dark days of Europe 50 years ago.

The Iraqi invasion is a forceful and brutal move of a country with great military power against a weaker country. The ratio of power has left Kuwait no chance. Reference here is to the first occupation of an Arab country by another Arab country. This is a precedent which immediately triggers the question as to whether Kuwait is only the first one in line, whether Saddam Husayn's desire to impose his will on Middle East countries may lead to additional military moves against additional countries.

Knesset members, the Iraqi invasion derided the diplomatic processes. It was Iraq which initiated the conflict and it was Iraq which also busted the mediation talks. The concentration of no less than seven divisions which preceded the invasion indicates that Saddam Husayn had intended, right from the start, to impose his will by force. Israel was not surprised by the invasion of Iraq into Kuwait. A few weeks ago I said that the chances of war in the region increased in view of the Iraqi threat. Whoever observed Saddam Husayn's conduct and listened to his statements should have reached the conclusion that aggression on the part of Iraq was possible.

This Iraqi invasion exposes—and this time also to the Arab world—the real danger Saddam Husayn poses to the Middle East countries and to the vital interests of the whole world. In the wake of this invasion, the Iraqi ruler currently controls 20 percent of the world's oil reserves. There is no doubt that the invasion will shock the international world market. According to various reports, oil prices have already soared by 30 percent.

Mr. Speaker, during his war with Iran Saddam Husayn used chemical weapons and murdered thousands of Kurds as well as Iranian soldiers. He thus violated Iraq's commitment to the Geneva Convention of 1925. Iraq was a signatory to this convention which bans the use of chemical weapons. He committed these atrocities but got away scot free because there was no proper international reaction.

Recently, he threatened to wipe half of Israel from the map with the help of chemical weapons. In the wake of those threats and in my former capacity as the foreign minister, I summoned the ambassadors of the United States, Japan, and the European Community and called on their countries to take real action. I told them that in the absence of an effective reaction on their part to Saddam Husayn's threats he would interpret their silence as acceptance of his policy.

Unfortunately, just as it did not take any real action after the Iraqi ruler used chemical weapons, the international

community did not act against him either in the wake of his threats to annihilate Israel with the help of chemical weapons. One must remember that even after the war with Iran, Iraq continued to receive considerable assistance from the Western countries. Among its best Air Force aircraft are French-made airplanes. Other countries helped Saddam Husayn to build his chemical capability, and now he is trying to attain a nuclear capability. To that end, he is getting aid from other countries. Albeit not from governments, Iraq is being helped by scientists, technicians, engineers, and industrial firms.

Members of the Knesset, the countries of the world can exert a real influence on Iraq. The countries of the world can show that aggression does not pay and that Iraq will pay a very dear price for the violence of its ruler. Saddam Husayn may not be contented with the occupation of Kuwait, just as he did not make do with his victory over the Iranians. The Iraqi tyrant might look for other objectives. The man has a large army and unlimited ambitions.

The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait actually extends the potential threat we are facing on the eastern front. It should be stressed that the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait does not constitute a geostrategic change for Israel. Nevertheless, the moment we see such a change, such as the move of the Iraqi Army into Jordan, we will take action. This has been and remains the policy of the Israeli government.

Israel will continue to be alert and cautiously examine the Iraqi ruler's moves, and will know how to defend its interests and security.

Reportage on Foreign Minister Levi's U.S. Visit

Levi Postpones Visit by 24 Hours

TA0508172490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Minister David Levi has postponed his visit to the United States by 24 hours in order to hold more consultations. Levi is due to meet Secretary Baker on Thursday morning [9 August].

Will Not Raise 'New Ideas'

TA0608063990 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Report by political correspondent Natan Gutman]

[Text] The prime minister, the foreign and defense ministers, and the deputy foreign minister yesterday held final consulations preparatory to Foreign Minister David Levi's trip to Washington.

The incidents in the Persian Gulf will certainly crop up in the Levi-Baker talks; however, sources in the foreign minister's bureau stress that the major issue discussed will still be the political process and the ways to move it forward. No fundamentally new ideas regarding the composition of the Palestinian delegation were raised during the consultations in Jerusalem. As we know, the United States wants Levi to give them clarifications on Prime Minister Shamir's letter to President Bush. Levi will not supply these clarifications, and will only stress that Israel is willing to accept a delegation whose participants are chosen on a name-by-name basis. The foreign minister will not get into any details behind this.

Foreign Minister Levi will also raise the idea of a document of understanding between Israel and the United States. This would be a position paper, clarifying the United States' opposition to a Palestinian state, and the fact that it would not force Israel to negotiate with the PLO. However, beyond proposing this as an idea, no operative steps toward formulating this document are to be expected during the current visit.

As for the Iraqi issue, the foreign minister will devote some of his talks with Secretary of State Baker to this matter, and will insist that Saddam Husayn constitutes the real danger to the region. Levi will also assert that Israel is the most stable ally in the Middle East, and that the PLO maintains close contacts with Iraq.

The Washington administration, keenly waiting for practical responses that will facilitate the furthering of the political process, will be slightly disappointed, and will have to be content with a clarification of principles.

Baker Postpones Visit to 6 Sep

TA0608175490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Minister David Levi has postponed his scheduled visit to Washington until the beginning of next month. Our correspondent Yo'el Nir reports that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker announced that he was forced to ask his Israeli counterpart to put off his visit to Washington because of the mission entrusted to him by President Bush to leave immediately for Turkey. Baker and Levi agreed to meet on 6 September. The contacts between the two men were conducted by Israel's Ambassador to Washington Moshe Arad.

U.S. Criticized for Delay

TA0708065290 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Aug 90 p 1

[Report from Jerusalem by Dan Izenberg and from Washington by Eric Rozenman]

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister David Levi cancelled his trip to Washington yesterday after U.S. Secretary of State James Baker said he was being sent to Turkey and would not be able to meet Levi as planned, the Foreign Ministry announced.

"In the wake of President Bush's orders to Secretary of State James Baker to leave immediately for Turkey, the secretary of state was obliged to ask Foreign Minister David Levi to postpone his trip to Washington," said a Foreign Ministry communique.

Levi and Baker have agreed to meet in Washington on September 6 instead.

The postponement seemed to offer concrete proof of assessments by Israeli officials that since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, the Israeli-Palestinian dispute—for the time being at least—was no longer America's top priority in the Middle East.

"We have been saying all along that the Palestinian problem must be resolved together with the termination of the state of war between Israel and its Arab neighbors," a government offical said. "Today, that approach has been vindicated more than ever before." [passage omitted]

Nevertheless, as late as yesterday, Israeli officials had stressed that Levi's talks in Washington would focus on the deadlocked peace process, State Department officials took pains to give that impression, sending the Foreign Ministry a series of cables over the past few days, saying the agenda for the meeting remained as planned and that Baker and Levi would discuss the peace process and bilateral relations. [passage omitted]

[Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew on 7 August in a page one report by Hemi Shalev and Dalya Refa'el adds: "Political circles last night expressed doubts that the meeting between Foreign Minister David Levi and Secretary of State James Baker would take place even on on the new date, 6 September. They reported that the administration would most probably still be involved in the Gulf crisis at that time.

["The same sources further stated that one reason for the postponement of Levi's visit could have been the fact that the United States preferred not to appear to coordinate its moves with Israel at the same time it was trying to enlist Arab world support against Iraq, and that this consideration could still be effective in early September."

[Later in the report, it is noted that "according to his current plan, Levi is expected to make at least another three tours in September: first, the meeting with Baker in early September; then, in mid-September, a meeting with EC foreign minsiters in Brussels; and at the end of the month, the UN General Assembly session. It was reported last night that Levi was also officially invited to the FRG, and that he will proably travel there in the next few weeks.

["Jerusalem wishes to hold the Levi-Baker meeting separately from the meetings at the UN General Assembly so as not to minimize the importance of the meeting with the U.S. secretary of state."]

Shamir Says Presence on Golan 'Eternal'

TA0708102790 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhq Shamir this morning told representatives of the inhabitants of the Golan Heights that our presence on the Golan is eternal. The prime minister said that Israel has never offered the Syrians negotiations on our giving up the Golan Heights. The Knesset stipulated that the Golan Heights are an inseparable part of Israel, and there is no intention of breaking this law. This was reported by our correspondent Hayim Hecht.

Correction to Shamir Calls Invasion 'Warning'

TA0308181890

the following correction pertains to the item headlined "Shamir Calls Invasion 'Warning' To Be 'Prepared'" and subheadlined "Views 'Grave' Situation," published in the 6 August Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, page 48:

Column one, first paragraph, only sentence, make read: [Text] [Ganor] Mr. Prime Minister,.... (correcting name of correspondent)

Husayn Discusses Iraq-Kuwait Situation

NBC Interview

JN0508205290 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1705 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Interview with King Husayn by unidentified American NBC television reporter on 4 August via satellite in Amman, in English with Arabic subtitles—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Your Majesty, yesterday you met with President Saddam Husayn in Baghdad. Do you think that he has any plans to expand the conflict to move his forces into Saudi Arabia itself?

[Husayn] None whatsoever, sir; and, in point of fact, he has committed himself to a withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait. And I believe the withdrawal begins tomorrow.

[Reporter] You say you think the Iraqi withdrawal will begin tomorrow. Today we have news that a new government has been installed there. We are told that the new government will be headed by a gentleman who is a son-in-law of Saddam Husayn himself. Does this give you confidence that Iraqis are going to get out of Kuwait?

[Husayn] I have no knowledge of who are the members of the new government as yet. And I don't know whether your information is accurate there. But I know that if there is a commitment to withdrawal, unless of course there is an external threat, the withdrawal will take place beginning tomorrow as has been the commitment of the president to me.

[Reporter] When you spoke with President Saddam, what did you tell him, and what did he tell you?

[Husayn] Well, I went there following a meeting with President Mubarak and on behalf of myself, President Mubarak, and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia to arrange for a mini-summit tomorrow in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, together with the Iraqi leadership to see how we could resolve the problem. Unfortunately, it was fairly obvious this would have taken place only if there was no Arab League resolution. And I have gone under the impression that there wouldn't be until such a meeting was given a chance at the highest level to try to resolve the problem. Unfortunately, the resolution was forthcoming yesterday, and I believe that this has probably destroyed the chance for a summit or a mini-summit, but nonetheless we will continue to do our very, very best at the highest levels to try to resolve the problem within the Arab context.

[Reporter] The Arab League, of course, has condemned the Iraqi invasion and occupation of Kuwait. Why did Jordan, why did you not support that condemnation?

[Husayn] I did not because we are, principally, always against the acquisition of territory by force. We have taken that position time and again, and this is well-known. However, we are playing a role, trying to resolve the problem rather than complicate it. And you could not play a role between two sides to a problem while having adopted a position ourselves. So, that was why we did not adopt that resolution, and we have very strong feelings in that regard.

[Reporter] Well, Your Majesty, what happens now? How is this problem going to be resolved?

[Husayn] I hope that the Arab efforts will continue. And in any event, the Iraqi withdrawal is commencing. And I hope that eventually the Kuwaiti people and the Iraqi People—the Kuwaitis and the Iraqis will find a solution to a problem which was not a surprise. It is a problem of long historical duration. I believe that the present government in Iraqi tried its best to resolve the differences and other differences in a manner that was more forthcoming than any of the previous regimes in Iraq. But the problem did not come out of the blue—even at the Arab summit in Baghdad President Saddam Husayn spoke of the situation akin to a state of war in terms of the economic implications affecting Iraq and others. So it was there. There were attempts to resolve it. It wasn't resolved, and unfortunately it erupted. Now we want to resolve it within the Arab family and it is an Arab problem that should be resolved as such.

[Reporter] In your conversations with President Saddam of Iraq yesterday, Your Majesty, did he give you a justification, or try to justify his action in Kuwait?

[Husayn] We were all hoping that the Kuwaiti-Iraqi meeting at the highest level of the vice president of Iraq [as heard] and the crown prince of Kuwait at the time, would have succeeded in beginning a process to resolve the problem. Before that, I visited both countries and I had seen that the situation was pretty ominous and I warned about that, that there needed to be a solution of the problem that affected not only the two countries, but the area and many others throughout the world.

So, unfortunately, the meetings did not produce the desired result, and I believe the situation erupted into what we saw it erupt into in the last couple of days, sadly.

[Reporter] Your Majesty, you say you are confident that Iraqi forces will begin the withdrawal from Kuwait tomorrow and yet we hear reports, both from the government radio in Kuwait, now controlled by the Iraqis, as well as from Baghdad, that a new army is going to be created in Kuwait. Baghdad Television says that 100,000 Iraqi troops have volunteered to join this new Kuwait army. Are you absolutely certain, in your heart and mind, that Saddam will pull his troops out of Kuwait?

[Husayn] I have every confidence that he will live up to his word. He has always done that.

[Reporter] You say that this is an Arab matter for Arabs to resolve. Obviously, other nations are deeply concerned for reasons of oil and other questions of stability in that part of the world. Is there a role for the United States in this dispute?

[Husayn] I certainly hope that the United States will adopt an attitude that will have a calming effect and not be involved in this problem beyond what has happened so far, and....

[Reporter, interrupting] Please continue, sir. Today, in his meeting at the Camp David with the security advisers, the President said specifically that he is keeping all of his options open, which, of course, include military options too. He has indicated he would not accept benignly military action against Saudi Arabia. How do you interpret, how do you react to these American options being kept open?

[Husayn] I suppose this is a prerogative of the President of the United States. But, on the other hand, I can only say that any foreign intervention, be it Israeli or otherwise, in the Arab world will have a very, very bad reaction and could set the whole area ablaze. There is no need for that. And, at the same time, there is no threat to Saudi Arabia or any other Arab state. There is a problem we are trying to contain, and I hope we will succeed in doing so.

[Reporter] Do you say, sir, that there is no threat to Saudi Arabia? The Saudi rulers, I would think, would feel that they are very much threatened. They see the Iraqi Army massed on their borders. They see the power of Baghdad and President Saddam. You do not think they are threatened at all?

[Husayn] We have a long border that is a defined border with Iraq. They have always had the best relations, particularly over the last few years. I do not see what all these ideas of a threat really amount to. On the other hand, all we seek in the Arab world—and I believe that this is representative of all of us—is relations based on mutual respect, and we seek friendship with all in this world, and we seek stability and peace and progress in our area. And, if it is a question of outside interests in the area, then, obviously, we have interests as well, and both should be recognized and we have the right to live in our area in peace and I hope that we will achieve that.

[Reporter] Your Majesty, given that, do you think President Saddam of Iraq has been contributing to this sense of peace and stability in the region?

[King Husayn] I believe that, had it not been for eight years of Iraqi resistance to an outside invasion, the situation would have been entirely different in the area. But, hopefully, even that, the Iraqi-Iranian dimension now will move towards a resolution of the problems between the two countries and that peace and stability could exist and come to be a fact of life in our area.

[Reporter] I was really referring more to the Iraqi involvement, and presence now, in Kuwait. Specifically, Your Majesty, will your government recognize the new government which has been formed in Kuwait today?

[Husayn] We will have to look at the problem and decide in time. But we will only do that as a result of our conviction that the Kuwaitis have chosen whatever they have chosen for themselves in the future. And, I do not specifically adopt any position at this time, nor does my government.

[Reporter] Your Majesty, many Americans, you know in this country very well, will be listening to your words here, and saying: What is King Husayn saying here that the Kuwaitis—does he think the Kuwaitis really have a choice in forming this new government with a hundred thousand Iraqi soldiers there? Do they have this freedom? How do you explain it?

[Husayn] I have made it very clear that we will not take a position at this point in time, and we will have to wait and see, and I spoke of the Iraqi withdrawal beginning tomorrow, and I really hope, still, that within the Arab context, we can resolve this problem between Iraq and Kuwait, and within the Arab family as a whole. We will do our best. We are engaged in a process. I have been personally engaged since the beginning of this crisis with every attempt possible to try to bring it under control, and I will continue to do so. So, I hope we'll be given the chance to achieve success there.

[Reporter] Obviously, clearly, Your Majesty, you are one of the senior, if not the senior figure as a king, as a country in the Middle East. You know that region very well, you know the leaders of that region very well. How would you describe Saddam Husayn today? Is he a person to be trusted?

[Husayn] I believe so.

[Reporter, interrupting] Is he a person to be dealt with?

[Husayn] And I believe so too.

[Reporter] President Saddam Husayn?

[Husayn] I believe he is a person to be trusted and to be dealt with, and I hope that he is given a chance to be known for what he is—an Arab patriot in the minds of many, not only in Iraq, but throughout the Arab world.

[Reporter] And finally, Your Majesty, we understand your position on this. Why do you think the other Arab nations, members of the Arab League, did pass this condemnation of Iraq, of President Saddam, and his invasion. Why do they feel the way they do, and act the way they did?

[Husayn] I believe that the decision was hasty. I believe that we, as leaders, should have had a chance to deal with the problem and try to resolve it, and I believe that when you take a harsh position over a matter that has two sides to a story, you eliminate yourself and eliminate a potential that you have to try to contribute towards its solution. This is our view. Obviously, the views of others may be different, but we are determined to do our best to arrive at a solution that is satisfactory to all, and hopefully we'll succeed.

[Reporter] And the former rulers of Kuwait, who have now been pushed from power, do they have a future? Will you give them any support, and recognition in the future?

[Husayn] Well, I was visiting with them in Kuwait a matter of days ago. And, we've had long relations with them, but on the other hand, this is part of the problem that has to be resolved by the Kuwaitis and the Iraqis with the help of all the Arabs, and I hope that this will come about. I don't have the ability to go into detail at this stage. I don't have a position that can be adopted on any detail regarding the crisis, but we are trying to control it and bring it to an end.

[Reporter] As you continue, Your Majesty, in your efforts to bring this whole crisis, this conflict to an end, what is the next step now?

[Husayn] The next step is that we'll continue to be in touch with Arab leaders. We will have bilateral meetings. We will move, we will see whatever needs to be done. We have an option of meeting tomorrow to try to address the problem. Unfortunately, this [word indistinct], but that doesn't mean that the efforts will not continue. I am in touch with my colleagues, including His Majesty King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, and we will continue to do our best to arrive at a conclusion.

[Reporter] Your Majesty, thank you very much for having been with us today from Amman, Jordan.

[Husayn] Thank you.

CBS Interview

JN0708083090 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Interview with King Husayn by Dan Rather of the CBS television network in English with Arabic subtitles on 5 August; place not given; recorded]

[Rather] Given the situation on this day at this hour, in your opinion, what is the single most important thing for Americans to know about what is happening?

[Husayn] That it is one of the most serious crisis situations that this area has faced for a long period of time, that we need to be calm and collected about it, that it had a background—a historical background—and that it did not come out of the blue. It was even the subject of discussion during the latest Arab summit held in Baghdad. All the hopes were pinned on the negotiating process between the two states of Iraq and Kuwait. But unfortunately, it seems that the wrong signals were received by our brethren in Kuwait, which suggested that Iraq was bluffing. Iraq was not bluffing. And it was very clear that it wanted a resolution of the problems, both the border dispute and the question of possible access to the Gulf waters, and at the same time the question of oil pricing that had affected not only Iraq and Iran but many in this area and in the world. So, unfortunately, the situation went out of hand. And now, what we need to do is to be very calm about it and to ensure that we realize that intimidation won't work and, in point of fact, might become counterproductive and the danger is of the whole area erupting if there is any action precipitious from outside.

[Rather] What about those who say: The whole area has already erupted? And you have one Arab state invading, conquering, and occupying another Arab state. There will be those who say: Your Majesty, it's already up in flames.

[Husayn] Well sir, I believe that there are certain degrees of crises. We haven't reached the full limit of what can happen in this area. I, for one, have always stood for the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force, as far as my country. [sentence as heard] And at the same time, this is a principle that we have upheld throughout our political life. We are very sorry that this has happened. But I believe that there are many signs that it was coming unless there was a solution to the problem that affected millions of people who have just come out of a war that has lasted eight years defending the Arab order and affects people in the area in general. What has happened has happened. But our hopes are that we can somehow resolve this problem within the Arab context and that the Kuwaitis and the Iraqis can resolve it once and for all and that there will be a turning point insofar as their relations are concerned in the future, that a far deeper look into the real problems that exist in this area will enable us to forge together a better future for the Arab world. But if pressures continue, I am very afraid, sir, of the results for all concerned.

[Rather] I want to follow up on a number of things which you have raised, Your Majesty. But first let me attempt to establish what the facts are at the moment. Saddam Husayn said that he would begin withdrawing his troops today. Is he doing that?

[Husayn] To the best of my knowledge, I believe withdrawal has begun. I don't have any certain details today of what has happened so far.

[Rather] Is it fair to say that, while you believe he has started the withdrawal, you have no specific evidence or testimony to that effect?

[Husayn] To the best of my knowledge at this moment, I am aware of the announcement of the withdrawal and the beginning of the withdrawal. But, I don't have any details. We are not involved there on the ground.

[Rather] If withdrawal has begun, when would you expect it to be completed?

[Husayn] Again sir, the commitment made by Iraq from the very beginning to us was that they would begin the withdrawal within days and that it would probably take no longer than weeks at the maximum. I really don't know what the plan is and I don't know exactly what the timing is. However, if there is a threat of external pressure or intervention in the military sense, I believe that all this could go out of control.

[Rather] Is it true or not true that Iraqi forces have actually entered the so-called neutral zone or buffer zone?

[Husayn] Sir, I am not on the ground, nor did I have anyone to advise me of whether it is or otherwise. But Iraq and Saudi Arabia have defined their borders. They have a long border. If Iraqi forces were in Kuwait, then they would be on the border of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. If they are beginning to withdraw, one would hope that this would apply to all these forces. If there is a threat of the possible intervention of outsiders, I really don't know where we will go from there.

[Rather] But you have known Saddam Husayn a very long time. Do you believe, or do you not believe, that he intends to go into Saudi Arabia?

[Husayn] I don't believe he intends to go into Saudi Arabia, sir.

[Rather] Has he himself told you that?

[Husayn] He has told me that.

[Rather] He has told you that?

[Husayn] Yes, sir.

[Rather] When was the last time you saw him, Your Majesty?

[Husayn] Two days ago.

[Rather] Please give us some sense of not just who and what he is, but where is he at the moment, psychologically and motivationally; where is he and who is he?

[Husayn] I believe he is a man who has gone through a very difficult experience, who has managed to hold his country together for over eight years of war and beyond, who has built his country up, who believes in the Arab world, and who seeks to serve it and who is recognized in his country as a patriot. I have known him. I have been very frank and open with him. I believe that he has been the target of attacks from many quarters recently. But I believe that this was really linked up to the fact that Iraq represented something new in the area; a strength of a people united, a strength of a people who survived a terrible ordeal defending the Arab order, and that this represented a threat to some within the area and outside, unfortunately. This is where we are at the moment, sir. I do not believe that Saddam Husayn is acting on impulse. He spoke of the situation at the Arab summit before all the Arab leaders describing the situation regarding the oil as almost an act of war against Iraq. I believe that this should have been heeded.

[Rather] When was the last time you talked to President Bush, Your Majesty?

[Husayn] Three days ago, from Alexandria.

[Rather] And, in brief, what did you tell him?

[Husayn] We spoke about the situation. He expressed his concern, deep concern, about what was happening. And, I did tell him that the belief I had, which I still have, was that Iraq was committed to withdrawing from Kuwait. And, he welcomed that news. He expressed his concerns about American lives. And I said it was extremely legitimate. And so were we concerned about the lives of any who were outside the area of involvement, and in point of fact about all lives in the region. I spoke to the Iraqi president about American lives and about foreigners in the area. And he expressed to me his concern as well and that he will do everything he could to ensure that they were safe. This was the conversation we had. And we talked about continuing our dialogue during this crisis. And, we are old friends and we have always been in touch.

[Rather] You have mentioned several times your concern about quote outside pressures quote intimidation and precipitous moves. Do you believe that there is a real present danger of a military move by the West led by the United States?

[Husayn] I believe that there is a danger, sir. And I believe that the danger in again receiving the wrong signals and coming to the wrong conclusions. Well, there has certainly been a world mobilization that has unfortunately even involved some of us in the Arab World. We have been working very hard to get a summit that would include Iraq and some of us to try to resolve this problem. This has hindered us from doing so. I believe intimidation doesn't work, sir. I don't know what the end result would be. But persuasion and good sense would. My feeling is that we, as Arabs, got to have a chance to try our best to resolve this problem.

[Rather] You spent your lifetime preparing for leadership and exercising leadership. I know that you can see President Bush's situation very clearly. He is a peaceful person. He represents a country that wants peace. On the other hand, there are many people who are saying to him a tiger is loose around the Persian Gulf. You, Mr. President of the United States, is [as heard] the only person who can keep the tiger from devouring others. So you must move now with a bold, decisive move to match a bold, decisive move by the tiger. That is a powerful argument?

[Husayn] It may be a very powerful argument, sir, but there are other tigers in the area that have been loose for a long period of time. And in fact, what surprised me very much indeed with the recent positive developments in the world was that this area's problems were not addressed. Such a tiger exists in our neighbor Israel, in its continued occupation of the lands it has occupied, its annexation of the Syrian Golan and Jerusalem, many ways. So there are tigers in the area, sir. Maybe one creates another.

[Rather] I don't intend to go down a long list of hypotheticals. One, I think it would be unfair. And two, I don't think it would be all that productive. But, as you know, there are continued and renewed reports today, none of them confirmed, of such things as a rapid deployment force being sent from the United States to the area, beefing up both air power and sea power. One,

do you know that these reports are true, can confirm them? Two, is this what you mean by attempted intimidation, moves that could ignite even more violence?

[Husayn] Yes, sir. I don't have any confirmation. But, what I felt, very frankly, during the last few days was that there were pressures applied to bring not only the majority in the world in line but to also even influence Arab logic and decisionmaking to go along to justify the possibility of some military action on top of economic and other actions in the area. And what I am trying to say—and please believe me—all that intimidation doesn't work, that it could be counterproductive, and we could be in a far worse situation than we are facing at the moment.

[Rather] Bluntly put, do you believe that President Mubarak of Egypt was among those who was positioning himself and positioning that part of the Arab world he believes he represents in a certain way? I am not sure I understood what you have just told me.

[Husayn] No, I was speaking, sir, of an unfortunate premature decision adopted at the Arab League in Cairo.

[Rather, interrupting] This is the condemnation [word indistinct]

[Husayn] In regard to the condemnation, that may have really limited the possibilities of the countries that took that position in playing a constructive role in trying to resolve the problem.

[Rather] What happened? Why wasn't the summit held?

[Husayn] The summit was meant to be held if that resolution didn't come into maturity and reality. That was what I went to Baghdad to try to get the summit to meet with the very clear understanding that nothing else would happen until we had the chance to meet and try to resolve the problem. I came back and the resolution had already been adopted.

[Rather] I want to make sure I understand. You thought you had a deal, you thought you had an agreement?

[Husayn] Yes.

[Rather] That no measure of condemnation would be passed by the Arab League in Cairo?

[Husayn] Yes.

[Rather] You went to Baghdad and Saddam Husayn agreed to come to the summit meeting in Saudi Arabia?

[Husayn] Iraq agreed to come, yes sir, either at his level or his vice president's level, yes sir.

[Rather] So you would talk today, instead of sitting here talking to the likes of Dan Rather, that you would be in Saudi Arabia, attending the summit meeting?

[Husayn] Yes, yes, sir.

[Rather] Were you surprised when you got back to your home base and found that while you were in the air, the condemnation had indeed been passed.

[Husayn] I was sir, because I, in any event, sir, felt that such a crisis merited the attention of the leaders themselves rather than their representatives in the Arab League in that rather emotional manner.

[Rather] Any possibility that this summit may yet be held or is it dead and [?gone]?

[Husayn] I believe the idea is that summits, a conference or Arab summit, would not be productive or forthcoming. And maybe a mini-summit is the same. But, I believe that bilateral and multilateral attempts by leaders will continue, and this is what we are involved in at this time.

[Rather] Forgive me, I didn't mean to interrupt you. But I want to make sure I understand. So, you don't think there is going to be a summit?

[Husayn] Not in the way it was.

[Rather] So, it hasn't been postponed. It already has been canceled?

[Husayn] I think so, yes.

[Rather] You talk about an Arab solution. Let me set aside for a moment the argument of those who say: Listen, there isn't going to be an Arab solution, because the Arabs can't agree on anything. Let's set that aside for the moment. Outline for me what you think is a solution that could actually take place and that you would consider ideal. Give me your idea of the solution. How it would work?

[Husayn] Well, sir, we were talking about withdrawal and we believe this has begun and it could hopefully continue and the occupation of Kuwait. We talked and we believe in the possibility of Kuwaitis and Iraqis freely resolving this problem with our help. And certainly as far as relations between Arab states are concerned that they should be utterly reviewed and based on a new foundation that would ensure that the reasons that may have brought this crisis about would never exist again and that there could be trust and confidence and we could build this part of the world together, which is our right after all, as is happening elsewhere in the world.

[Rather] Why should President Bush not consider a new arrangement with Iran to protect the area against Saddam Husayn?

[Husayn] Why shouldn't Iran and Iraq try to resolve their problems, which would mean greater stability in the area? Why shouldn't we try to give the Iraqis and the Arabs a chance to reorganize their lives? And I don't mean by that changing systems of government or changing borders or whatever but, to, I mean, to live the reality of the needs of people in this area, and, hopefully, make progress so that this part of the world falls in line

with the rest of the world in terms of their enjoyment of greater peace and security than ever before.

[Rather] If President Bush were to say to you: Listen, I am deeply concerned about this man, Saddam Husayn. And, Your Majesty, we may have a difference of opinion about him. And I am considering changing our policy, and at least making some tacit arrangements with Iran for the security of the area, would you advise him against doing that?

[Husayn] I certainly wouldn't like any outside powers to have the right to impose its will or control this area in any form or way. We have fought [changes thought], my family has, for Arab freedom, Arab unity, for progress in this area. We are the leaders and the soldiers of the Great Arab Revolt. And we have been trying to achieve those goals of our fathers and forefathers without much success until now. So, you can't expect me to acquiesce with the idea that any neighbor outside, be it Israel or others, have a right to tell us what to do or what not to do and dictate on us our lives. I certainly wouldn't enjoy continuing in the position that I occupy now if this were ever to be the case. I wouldn't be proud of it at all.

[Rather] Your Majesty, I want to raise the subject of the American hostages and other Western hostages being held. One, there is a report that the Iraqis have freed the prisoners that the Kuwaitis were holding, that the Kuwaitis considered to be terrorists. Do you know that to be true?

[Husayn] I don't know that to be true, sir. I have no details whatsoever or information.

[Rather] Do you believe it to be true?

[Husayn] I really can't tell.

[Rather] Is this current situation likely to decrease or increase the danger for American hostages?

[Husayn] I certainly hope that the question of the hostages can be resolved as soon as possible, sir. We have been shocked and we have been anguished by what has happened to them, by the suffering of the families of these hostages. And we don't believe in this. This is not Islam. This is not Arabism. This is not anything that we believe in. We have been against it throughout, sir. We have been against terrorism and we will continue to be. And we hope there will be a solution to this problem soon. And every day that passes is an added burden to all of us in this world, including myself. On the other hand, sir, I hope that the area won't deteriorate into a state of chaos where if it's....[changes thought] I see the possibilities are of outside intervention would be embarked on a course which is very, very unpredictable in terms of its end results. [sentence as heard]

[Rather] Again, if you're talking to President Bush, or if he were here, and he said: Alright, Your Majesty, what would you do, keeping in mind that there is a tremendous pressure, domestic pressure and outside pressure in the West, for him to make some retaliatory move? Your counsel, your advice, what help could you give him? What would you say to him?

[Husayn] Would he be able to give me the chance to try? Would the world do that? I have been trying my best, sir, with some of my colleagues. I believe it is our right and our duty to do so. But, would I be able to influence him? I really do not know.

[Rather] You would advise him to make no military move?

[Husayn] I believe that a military move, sir, would result in a lot of damage in this area, sir.

[Rather] You said you do not believe that Saddam Husayn would move against Saudi Arabia. But if he were to surprise you and do that, would you then agree that an American military response would be necessary?

[Husayn] I don't believe at the moment that Saudi Arabia is a threat to Iraq. And, as long as it is not....[changes thought] They enjoy the best of relations and still continue to have these relations. I don't see why we are considering any possibility of that happening. Between Kuwait and Iraq, unfortunately, there was a problem. It developed quickly, maybe, but the signs were there. It was not taken seriously, unfortunately. And I hope that this is the last of this kind of action that would be taken by any Arab state against another. What I am saying is that there were two sides to a story. The world should appreciate it as such. And, although we are against the acquisition of territory by force and we continue to be, we are trying to repair the damage as best as we can and as soon as we can. And, I hope and pray that we will succeed.

[Rather] You know the history of our country. You know the history of the American presidency. President Bush, if he follows the course you have outlined—but you were not able to come up with an Arab solution—and Saddam Husayn makes yet another move, moves into another country and does something else along the lines of what he has done, history would be brutal to President Bush.

[Husayn] Sir, the United States and President Bush had to take some action a short while ago against a country that is a member of the United Nations as well, to the best of my knowledge. And, he felt justified in doing so.

[Rather] You are speaking of Panama?

[Husayn] I am speaking of Panama. And earlier on, of Grenada. So I am saying, sir, why is this case so out of the ordinary, as much as it hurts me that this has had to happen? Is it because Arabs are different, are regarded as such by the world? We want the best of relations with all our friends with the world. We want friendships to develop. We want them based on mutual respect. And, the world has interests in this area. But interests are a two-way affair.

So look at our problems as well and try to help us, instead of creating the atmosphere over the years that has caused

a lot of anger to be there. I can tell you that the semblance of this area of its being peaceful and content is a very false one. Underneath the surface, there is a lot of anger. There is a feeling that the Arabs are not being treated right. It is something that has started tens of years ago. It continues and it grows. So, do not be under the impression that things are going well. They are not. This is what I feel. I feel what is in the hearts of many, the majority of the Arabs in many, many different parts of the Arab world. And that is why I believe that this has to be taken into consideration in this crisis and in regard to our relations now and in the future.

[Rather] But to those Americans who say, and are in one way or another expressing it to President Bush: Hey listen, I hear his majesty. I believe in him and I understand. But, President Bush, hanging in the balance right now in the Middle East, hanging in the balance: the world price of oil, the possibility of interest rates going up with all that suggests for fueling inflation, touching off the recession, perhaps one not just in the United States, but wide consequences; and, indeed, world peace hanging in the balance. You, President Bush, so this argument goes, simply cannot afford. [sentence as heard] You are not doing your responsibilities if you don't meet force with force?

[Husayn] I would suspect very much indeed their motive, sir. And, I would wish that we moved from an area of crisis management whenever a crisis occurs to trying to look deeper into a problem and trying to help others find solutions to them. That would mean a different Arab world and a different future for it.

[Rather] As we sit here at this moment, are you optimistic or pessimistic about what is going to happen?

[Husayn] I believe that things are in the balance, sir. I really don't know how.

[Rather, interrupting] You think it's really on a razor's edge, you mean?

[Husayn] Yes, it is.

[Rather] What will be the decisive, the telling things to look for over the next 24-48 hours?

[Husayn] Twenty four to 48 hours are not much difference to what exists right now. We are trying to reestablish our dialogue at the Arab level with the other heads of state to see what we can do and we are watching the situation on the ground. But I believe that, if we are talking of Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, it will be affected by what happens during this next 48 hours, by what appears to be a threat or an attempt at further intimidation, or by the process being held to. What we want is a conclusion of the Iraqi military presence in Kuwait as soon as possible. And beyond that, sir, we really are dealing with the problem from an Arab perspective to the best of our abilities. But, we don't know what others are planning. And if we cannot predict exactly what their actions may be, I am in no position to tell you what.

[Rather] Frankly, do you expect some American military move or some effort at what you described as intimidation?

[Husayn] I continue to hope that this would not be the case. I continue to hope and pray that this would not be the case. [Husayn repeats himself]

[Rather] Hope is one thing, the question was belief. Do you believe?

[Husayn] I honestly can not tell sir, honestly can not tell.

[Rather] I am interested in your saying that this is not just another crisis in the Middle East. Did you think this may be the definitive crisis?

[Husayn] Yes, it could be, sir.

[Rather] I am not sure I understand why you think that. Is it because you are on the verge now of only the strong survives? I mean, Syria has, in effect, taken over control of Lebanon. Now, you have Saddam Husayn conquering and occupying Kuwait. Is that what you mean, that it is a danger of only the strong would survive?

[Husayn] No, not necessarily that, sir. But in addition, I would like to say that Israel represents a very serious threat at this point in time. I believe that Israel has done a lot to create the present image of Iraq and its leadership through whatever means were available to it over the last several months. And, so there is this danger. There are other dangers in the area, of course, ranging from water, to the needs of people everywhere. So, the area is passing through a very difficult phase of its life. And all the crises seem to be building up. And what we are trying to do is to defuse them and to address them adequately and properly. Otherwise, if let us say, there is military intervention, it is going to be regarded by the Arabs, including myself, as an attempt to destroy this Arab nation once and for all and this is going to be resented and this is going to be fought by the Arab man in the street and by everybody. It means, sir, that this area is going to...[changes thought] and I don't know what weapons can be used. There are weapons of mass destruction in the area, in Israel, elsewhere. Anything can happen.

[Rather] Is this, or is it not a bid by Saddam Husayn to reorder the whole power structure in the Middle East? Is this his bid to reorder not only the riches of the area but also the power and even the borders of the area?

[Husayn] No, sir. I don't believe that to be the case. I really honestly don't believe it. And I believe that many of us have realized a long time ago that we are not in a situation where individuals can be the nation. The nation continues beyond individuals. None of us is lasting, sir. But, our responsibilities, if we are in positions of responsibility, are to ensure that this nation

enjoys stability and peace and progresses towards a better future, which is its right.

[Rather] As I flew in to Jordan today from a Persian Gulf area, I was told: Jordan's King Husayn is going to recognize the new government in Kuwait. But, you didn't do that.

[Husayn] I've no intention of doing that at the moment, sir. And I suppose only the future will tell whether we are to recognize the [?provisional] government.

[Rather, interrupting] You were considering doing it today?

[Husayn] No, sir, I wasn't considering doing it.

[Rather] So, you weren't doing it [words indistinct].

[Husayn] No, sir, because I can not do it nor would I do it when we are still in a crisis and when we are still trying to resolve this crisis to the satisfaction of the Iraqis and the Kuwaitis, the Kuwaitis and the Iraqis. And by that, I don't mean anything but the people under conditions of freedom. We are in a position where we are playing a role. And we hope that we will succeed in achieving something good for all concerned. So, at this moment, this question hasn't arisen in our minds yet.

[Rather] If we speak again, in, say, a week or 10 days, do you believe that most or all of the Iraqi troops will be out?

[Husayn] If there are no new developments, I believe yes. Some of them would be out. I really can't tell. I don't know what is there.

[Rather] And if we speak in, say, a week or 10 days, do you expect that by that time that the United States will have made some military move?

[Husayn] I honestly can't tell, sir.

[Rather] You are fearful of that though?

[Husayn] I am fearful of a great eruption in this area. So, that could be devastating to all.

[Rather] Your Majesty, thank you for your time.

[Husayn] Thank you, sir.

[Rather] I appreciate it very much.

[Husayn] Thank you, sir.

Foreigners To Leave Kuwait, Iraq via Amman

JN0708095590 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] In an urgent report from Amman, REUTERS said that Iraq today allowed foreigners residing in Kuwait or Iraq to leave by land via Jordan.

A Jordanian official told the news agency that the Jordanian authorities are preparing to receive a large number of foreign nationals residing in Kuwait, and that employees have been sent to the al-Ruwayshid border post.

Thousands of foreigners have not been able to leave Kuwait since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait last Thursday [2 August].

Husayn, Oman's Qabus Converse by Phone

JN0708060690 Amman Domestic Service in English 0430 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] His Majesty the King made a telephone conversation with Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id of Oman last night. The two leaders exchanged views on the latest developments in the Gulf area. They also discussed concerted Arab efforts underway to end the Iraqi-Kuwaiti dispute within the Arab fold and to prevent any outside intervention that poses great perils to the Arab nation.

Muslim Brotherhood Denounces 'U.S. Crusade'

NC0708093590 Paris AFP in English 0915 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Amman, Aug 7 (AFP)—The Muslim Brotherhood, a politically powerful Islamic fundamentalist group, Tuesday hinted that Kuwait had forfeited its right to exist because of its pro-Western defense policy.

The Brotherhood in a statement also denounced a U.S. "crusade" in the Gulf and said it pointed to "U.S. intervention in the region."

The United States has spearheaded an international campaign to isolate Iraq following its August 2 invasion of Kuwait and has beefed up its military presence in the Gulf.

Alluding to an appeal by Kuwait for U.S. military assistance, the Muslim Brotherhood declared: "Any Arab regime that accepts foreign protection places itself among those hostile to the Arab and Muslim nation and looses any justification for its existence."

The statement also described as a "mistake" the policy of Arab states to maintain investments in Western banks and called for such assets to be withdrawn and placed in Arab and Muslim countries. [passage omitted]

Deplores U.S. Attitude

JN0708074490 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 7 Aug 90 p 20

[Text] Amman—AL-RA'Y—The Muslim Brotherhood yesterday issued a statement on the Iraqi forces' entry into Kuwait. The statement emphasized the need to deal with the Iraq-Kuwait dispute within the Arab framework and without the intervention of foreign powers.

The statement deplored the American crusader attitude and said that any regime that accepts foreign protection will place itself among those who are hostile to the Islamic nation.

The statement also denounced the economic measures taken by nations of the world, namely, the freezing of Iraqi and Kuwaiti assets.

The statement called for ending all disputes among Arab and Islamic states and granting freedom to peoples of these countries.

Volunteers Offer To Defend Iraq Against U.S.

JN0708070190 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 7 Aug 90 p 1

[Text] Amman—AL-DUSTUR—Large numbers of Jordanian citizens visited the Iraqi Embassy in Amman yesterday and expressed their desire to volunteer and defend Iraq against American and foreign threats and to offer money and jewelry in support of fraternal Iraq in its pan-Arab battle.

Iraqi officials thanked the citizens for their noble sentiments and reassured them that the Iraqi position is very good and that Iraq had not called for volunteers.

Paper Sees Balanced Policy Toward Kuwait Issue

JN0608095990 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 6 Aug 90 pp 1, 18

[Editorial: "The Arab Role in Supporting the Jordanian Position"]

[Text] In his frank and direct warning against an incorrect assessment of the dangers of the current situation, His Majesty King Husayn explained that any foreign military intervention in the region, whether Israeli or otherwise, will lead to reaction that could set ablaze a region that is distinctive for its liability to burn at the first friction.

This warning, which is aimed at U.S. public opinion and White House decision makers, is important because it is made by an Arab leader who profoundly appreciates the consequences if issues continue to be pushed toward situations which create new confrontations in the region, especially since such dangers are no longer mere assumptions now that the region lies on a large powder keg.

At the same time that Jordan continues to sound the alarm, hoping to prevent any more hasty decisions and emotional positions, it proposes a diplomatic alternative that could lead to a decision based on justice and truth and the principles of international law enforced in our contemporary world.

The lengthy press statement in which Prime Minister Mudar Badran explained the bases of the Jordanian position on the Gulf crisis, firmly points out that Jordan continues to the very last to follow a realistic and balanced policy in an attempt to maintain its role as a mediator accepted by all sides to this explosive crisis.

Thus, Jordan's reservation toward the Arab League ministerial council's resolution against Iraq is evidence of the determination of the country's leaders to press ahead with their pan-Arab role, especially since this decision, as has now been proven, has only aggravated the problem and aborted the accomplishments that Jordan had achieved: tackling the issue through negotiations within the Arab family.

The truth is that Jordan has pursued this balanced policy because it is aware of the dangerous situation the region might fall into if some people were to respond to the defamation, intimidation, and boycott campaigns to which the United States has employed all its diplomatic skills in a clear attempt to single out Iraq and impose humiliation and submission on this nation.

Premier Al-Huss Returns From Cairo 4 Aug

NC0408112390 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss returned to Beirut from Cairo at noon today. [passage omitted]

'Awn Gunmen Fire at LF Positions 4 Aug

NC0408063890 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] On the security level, 'Awn's gunmen violated the cease-fire at 0100 today. They opened bursts of machine gun fire at the Lebanese Forces [LF] positions in Nahr al-Kalb and J'ita. The Lebanese Forces did not return the fire.

Two Killed in Clash With SLA 5 Aug

NC0608064590 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] A clash occurred between the South Lebanese Army [SLA] and armed groups on the Kafr Falus front last night. Two members of the armed groups were killed.

'Violent' Clashes Reported

NC0608120590 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Violent clashes have been raging on the Kafr Falus-Lib'a-'Ayn al-Mir combat lines between Major General Antoine Lahd's army [South Lebanese Army—SLA] on one side and Islamic and Palestinian organizations on the other since midday today. The combatants are using various types of artillery and rockets in the fighting. The clashes come in the wake of an operation carried out by the Nasirite Popular Organization against the positions of the SLA. Two of the attackers were killed in the operation.

Junblatt, Velayati Contacts Reported

NC0608121190 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] According to reports from Iqlim al-Tuffah, intermittent clashes between the Amal Movement and Hizballah have been taking place since this morning on the Jarju' and Kafr Milki lines. 'Arab Salim and Kafr Hatta are also coming under shelling.

Yesterday, Minister Walid Junblatt went to Damascus to consult with the Syrian and Iranian officials over ways to end the fighting in Iqlim al-Tuffah. Earlier, Junblatt held several meetings with Amal and Hizballah leaders.

It is worth noting that Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who arrived yesterday in Damascus, met a delegation of Hiballah leaders today. Velayati was cited as saying that he agreed with the delegation on the need to consolidate the cease-fire in Iqlim al-Tuffah and to facilitate the entry of the Lebanese Army into the area and its assumption of security responsibilities there.

This morning, clashes between the Ma'ruf Sa'd forces of the Popular Liberation Army and the agent militias occurred on the Lib'a-Kafr Falus-'Ayn al-Mir front. Light- and medium-caliber weapons were used.

Meanwhile, an Israeli force of three tanks, two armored vehicles, and 30 troops roamed the al-Ahmadiyah hills today, reaching the 910 hill that overlooks the twin towns of al-Qulay'ah in western al-Biqa'. The force fired toward the al-Litani River.

In Zummarayya, the agent militias opened heavy-caliber automatic fire at Mimis crossing.

Last night, Israeli helicopters overflew the al-Khardali bridge and fired flares.

Premier Asks Revolutionary Guards To Leave

NC0608152790 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1430 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] REUTER has cited government sources as saying that Lebanon has asked Iran to withdraw the Iranian Revolutionary Guards from Lebanon. Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss delivered a memorandum containing this request to an Iranian diplomat in Beirut.

Israeli Planes Stage 'Mock Raids' Over Sidon

NC0708093390 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Regarding the security situation, Amal and Hizballah resumed intermittent fighting in Iqlim al-Tuffah following the guarded calm that prevailed there this morning.

In another development, Israeli warplanes flew and staged mock raids over Sidon and the camps shortly before 1000 today, drawing antiaircraft fire.

Later, Israeli warplanes broke the sound barrier as they flew over the mountain area shortly before 1130.

Southern Townspeople Report Pressure To Sell Land

NC0408173990 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] The townspeople of Yarin in the occupied border strip have warned of the being pressured to sell their land in preparation for establishing a project similar to Bill Robinson's. The people emphasized in a statement that Muhammad Abu-Sari, a security official at al-Bayyadah roadblock, has exploited the bad economic conditions in the area and bought vast areas of land there. The people indicated that a West German nun is implementing a project to build 30 housing units and purchase commercial stores and a gasoline station in the town of 'Alma al-Sha'b, which is adjacent to Yarin.

In their statement, the people of Yarin urged official, spiritual, and party leaders to raise their issue at all levels.

Al-Asad Receives Phone Call From Turkish President

JN0408145290 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received a telephone call from Turkish President Turgut Ozal this morning. The conversation dealt with the situation arising from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the efforts to solve this crisis.

Kuwaitis in Damascus Demonstrate Against Invasion

JN0408172490 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] A popular march was staged here today in which hundreds of Kuwaiti, Gulf, and Palestinian citizens took part. The march was led by Kuwaiti Ambassador Ahmad 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Jasim and headed to the Yemeni and Jordanian Embassies to hand messages to the two ambassadors denouncing the Iraqi invasion. Similar memos were delivered to the Mauritanian and Sudanese ambassadors because their countries did not condemn the Iraqi invasion.

President Hafiz al-Asad also received a telephone call from Turkish President Turgut Ozal during which they discussed the situation resulting from the invasion and the efforts exerted to resolve the ensuing crisis.

Al-Shar' Returns From Cairo Meetings 4 Aug

JN0408214090 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' returned to Damascus this afternoon after leading Syria's delegation to the Islamic foreign ministers conference and to the emergency meeting of the Arab League Council, both of which were convened in Cairo.

Jordanian Prime Minister Visits Damascus

Arrives 6 Aug

JN0608102990 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran arrived at 1130 today in Damascus with his accompanying delegation. Heading those receiving him was Syrian Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi. Also there to receive him on the tarmac were Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and Jordanian Ambassador in Damascus Nayif al-Hadid.

After Mr. al-Zu'bi shook hands with the members of the fraternal Jordanian delegation, he and Mr. Badran walked over to the dais of honor where the national anthems of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic were played. They then inspected the honor guard.

Afterward, the Jordanian prime minister shook hands with those receiving him as well as with the deputy prime minister for service affairs, ministers, the Syrian ambassador in Damascus, and the staff of the Jordanian Embassy in Damascus.

Attends Meetings

JN0608144390 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Meetings of the Joint Syrian-Jordanian Committee got under way at 1300 today chaired by Prime Ministers Mahmud al-Zu'bi and Mudar Badran. Attending for Syria were Messrs Mahmud Qaddur, deputy prime minister for services; Muhammad Ghabbash, minister of agriculture and agricultural reform; Faruq al-Shar', foreign minister; Engineer Yusuf Ahmad, minister of transport; Hassan al-Saqqa, minister of supply and internal trade; Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade; Eng. 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Madani; Antoine Jubran, minister of industry; Adnan Khuli, minister of tourism; Dr Sabah Baqjaji, minister of state for planning; Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs; Matanyus Habib, minister of oil and mineral resources; Majid Abu-Salih, Syrian ambassador in Amman; and Dr 'Abd-al-Rahim al-Subay'i, deputy minister of planning; and Muhammad al-Sharif, governor of the Syrian Central Bank, along with a number of experts.

The Jordanian side was made up of Messrs Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Ziyad Fariz, minister of industry and trade; 'Abd-al-Karim al-Kabariti, minister of tourism and antiquities; Eng Dawud Khalaf, minister of water and irrigation; Nabil Abu-al-Huda, minister of transport and communications; Thabit al-Tahir, minister of energy and mineral wealth; Dr Sulayman 'Arabiyat, minister of agriculture; Dr Muhammad Sa'id al-Nabulsi, governor of Jordan's Central Bank; Dr Ibrahim Badran, secretary general of the Ministry of Industry and Trade; Nayif al-Hadid, Jordan's ambassador in Damascus; and Akthan al-Qusus, chief of the prime minister's office.

Welcoming the Jordanian delegation at the outset of the meeting, al-Zu'bi stressed the need for achieving further progress on the road to cooperation, coordination, and integration between the two sisterly states. For his part, Mr Badran also stressed the need for further advancing Syrian-Jordanian cooperation and integration.

The meeting took up the items on the agenda, including the recommendations of the followup committee. They also assessed the progress made in various areas.

Meanwhile, it was decided that the Syrian and Jordanian delegations will discuss recommendations of the followup committee and cooperation in industrial, agricultural, and trade areas as well as in transport and communication, energy, education and culture, tourism, water, and information, and other fields. [passage omitted]

Delivers Message to Al-Asad

JN0708074990 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Excerpts] At 1830 last night, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran and the delegation accompanying him. [passage omitted]

Badran conveyed a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from His Majesty King Husayn. The president asked Badran to convey a reply message. The talks during the meeting dealt with the work of the Syrian-Jordanian joint committee, bilateral relations, and the general Arab situation. [passage omitted]

Talas Receives Pakistani Air Force Official

JN0508221890 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] General Mustafa Talas—deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister—today received Air Marshal (Masud Hatif), deputy commander of the Pakistani Air Force, and his delegation. The major general commander of the Syrian Arab Air Force, the Pakistani ambassador, and the Pakistani military attache in Damascus attended.

The meeting centered on relations between the two friendly countries and armies and ways to improve them.

Iran's Velayati Meets Hizballah, Lebanese Figures

NC0608063690 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 6 May 90

[Text] Yesterday afternoon Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli, secretary general of the Hizballah revolutionary movement, and a number of the movement's members met and talked with our Foreign Minister Mr. Velayati, who is in Syria visiting Damascus.

Our correspondent reports that first, during this meeting, Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for its persistent efforts to end the conflicts in Lebanon and called for the continuation of these efforts by the Islamic Republic of Iran and Syria so that a final resolution will be found.

Then Mr. Velayati pointed to the critical situation in the region and to the ever increasing threats by the Zionist regime against the Muslims in the region and especially in Lebanon. He said that the unity of ranks among all Muslim and national forces is the only way to confront this plot.

Our foreign minister announced the readiness of the Islamic Republic of Iran to overcome the differences and to solve the crisis between the Hizballah revolutionary movement and Amal, and stressed the need for cooperation with the Syrian Government.

Last night Mr. Velayati also met with members of the Lebanese Muslim 'Ulema Grouping; Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, leader of the Islamic Unification Movement; members of the Jabal 'Amil 'ulema delegation; and Dr. Fathi Shiqaqi, a member of the Movement for Islamic Jihad in Palestine. They discussed the problems of Lebanon and the region. Each of the officials reported briefly on the situation in Lebanon and the uprising in occupied Palestine, and thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for its unsparing support for the anti-Zionist struggles and the struggles of the Lebanese Muslims.

Mr. Velayati also pointed to the significance of the struggle against Zionist and world arrogance. While discussing the current sensitive developments in the region, he called for serious efforts by the Muslims, the closing of ranks, and the further mobilization of forces to confront the plot against Islam.

Walid Junblatt, Lebanese public works minister and leader of the Druze Progressive Socialist Party, also met with our foreign minister yesterday. During this meeting talks were held on the problems of Lebanon and the region.

Confers With Kuwaiti Amir's Envoy

NC0608051290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] In continuation of his visit to Syria, Mr. Velayati met with Mr. Jabir al-'Ali, special envoy of the amir of Kuwait and the Kuwaiti ambassador to Syria. Our correspondent reports that, during this meeting, the Kuwaiti amir's special envoy discussed the talks that took place and the differences between Iraq and Kuwait and the dimensions of the Iraqi regime's aggression. He thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for its explicit and decisive stand condemning this aggression and calling for the unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi troops from Kuwait, and propounded Kuwait's request for the decisive presence of all countries in thwarting the aggression against Kuwait.

During this meeting our foreign minister emphasized that the Islamic Republic of Iran supports Kuwait's independence and territorial integrity and strongly condemns the Iraqi regime's aggression against Kuwait.

Comments on Discussions

LD0608172890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Mr. Velayati, minister of foreign affairs, has ended his visit to Syria and left for Oman. Before leaving for Oman, in an interview with the correspondent of the Central News Unit, he described the results of his two-day visit to Damascus:

[Begin Velayati recording] The goal of visiting Syria was to submit the message of His Excellency Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the esteemed president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to Mr. Hafiz al- Asad, the esteemed president of Syria, and to meet and have discussions with high-ranking Syrian officials. I met and had talks with Vice President Mr. 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam, and Foreign Minister Mr. Faruq al-Shar'. Our talks dealt with the recent Iraqi aggression against Kuwait. In view of the fact that Iran and Syria are

two countries which have strategic relations, and any event which takes place in this sensitive part of the world will affect these two countries, on such sensitive and important occasions it has been our custom, and still is, to have consultations and exchanges of views with our Syrian brothers about how to adopt joint positions. We and the Syrian authorities were unanimous in condemning this action, and in insisting that the aggressive Iraqi forces should return to accepted international borders, namely to the pre-invasion borders. The fate of Kuwait should be decided by the Kuwaiti people, like any other country. [end recording]

Continuing the interview, Mr. Velayati added: The Islamic Republic of Iran, as the victim of such attacks, endured an eight-year-old long and destructive war imposed by the regime that has now attacked Kuwait. Referring to the warnings of the Islamic Republic of Iran about preventing aggressive Iraqi actions during the imposed war, he said: Unfortunately, no attention was paid by international organizations to this well-meaning advice of the Islamic Republic. What happened in Iran 10 years ago has now been repeated in Kuwait.

He emphasized: The Islamic Republic of Iran, as an important country of the region, which has the greatest interests in the Persian Gulf strongly condemns this action of the Iraqi regime and cannot be indifferent towards the recent fundamental changes and developments.

Mr. Velayati said when referring to his visit to Oman: In Oman I shall hold meetings with high-ranking officials of that country about the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait, and I will submit the message of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the president, to the Sultan of Oman.

He said: What is certain is that Iran, Oman, and other countries of the region cannot be indifferent to what has happened in Kuwait. The countries of the region which will suffer the greatest losses due to such actions should, through continuous consultation with one another, adopt the necessary measures for remedying the present situation and for preventing the mid-term and long-term consequences of such actions.

Discusses Iraqi Aggression

LD0608131590 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1100 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati delivered a message from President Hashemi-Rafsanjani to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad yesterday.

During the meetings between Dr. Velayati, the Syrian president, and other high-ranking officials, the regional situation, particularly the recent developments and the Iraqi military aggression against Kuwait were discussed. Dr. Velayati stressed: In addition to creating anxiety and increasing tension, Iraq's aggression has given foreign powers an excuse to increase their military presence in the Persian Gulf.

Over the past 10 years Iran and Syria, as strategic allies, have stood up to the expansionistic aims of the Zionist and the Iraqi regimes. Iraq's invasion of Kuwait is clearly dangerous and worrying to all Mideast countries.

Since the outset of the eight-year imposed war Iran has tried to keep the Persian Gulf free of tension and has constantly stressed that the collective security of the Persian Gulf should be maintained by the regional governments, without foreign interference and influence.

During the imposed war Iran repeatedly brought the Iraqi regime's expansionist and aggressionist intentions to the attention of the world and the region. However, because of lack of proper foresight and through misinterpretation, the ruling powers did not heed those warnings and contributed to strengthening the aggressor.

During his meeting with President al-Asad, Dr. Velayati stressed that when parts of Iran were occupied by Iraq, we pointed out to Persian Gulf governments and the international community that if serious and decisive steps are not taken to combat aggression other countries, even protectors of the Iraqi regime, would suffer its dangerous consequences.

In any case, the new situation in the region more than ever calls for cooperation between regional governments, including Iran and Syria. Past experience has shown that the entry of foreign forces into the region would not only be to no avail and not in the interests of the people of the region, but it would lead to the prolonging of the causes of the crisis.

Al-Asad, Kuwaiti Officials Discuss Invasion

Meets With Kuwaiti Amir

JN0608153290 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] A telephone conversation was held today between President Hafiz al-Asad and His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, during which they talked about the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and what has been happening on Kuwaiti land.

Receives Delegation

JN0608171090 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1620 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Damascus, 6 Aug (SANA)—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' this afternoon received Shaykh Du'ayj Jabir al-'Ali al-Sabah, chief of the Kuwaiti Emir's Office, and his delegation. Also present at the meeting were Deputy Foreign Minister Yusuf Shakkur and Kuwaiti ambassador in Damascus 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Jasim.

Shaykh Du'ayj discussed developments in Kuwait and the Gulf against the backdrop of Iraq's invasion and lauded Syria's noble, pan-Arab stand alongside Kuwait and its people under the present difficult, fateful times.

Afghanistan

Defense Minister Receives Indian Delegation

LD0408084990 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0447 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] Kabul, Aug,. 3, BAKHTAR—Full General Mohammad Aslam Watanjar, minister of defence of the RA [Republic of Afghanistan] met in his office today with the Indian parliamentary delegation arrived recently to Kabul for an official and friendly visit.

During the meeting, Watanjar informed the guest delegation on the military-political situation in Afghanistan, gains of the RA armed forces in various parts of the country as well as friendly relations existed between the peoples of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Republic of India.

Parvan Province Security Confiscates Weapons

LD0308171590 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Text] State Security personnel of Parvan Province, by launching an ambush at the environs of that province, destroyed an ammunition convoy belonging to the Gulbuddin extremist group. According to a report by the BAKHTAR military section, Hafiz 'Abdul Hamid and four other convoy guards were killed during the ambush. A number were wounded.

Government Sends Reinforcements South of Kabul

BK0308123090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1212 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, Aug 3 (AFP)—The Kabul government has sent 100 tanks to reinforce positions south of Kabul, as the mujahedeen resistance claimed Friday to have seized 15 positions and killed 105 soldiers in three days of fighting.

Six mujahedeen factions launched a joint operation beginning at dawn on Wednesday in an area less than 20 kilometers (12 miles) south of the Afghan capital, a spokesman for rebel commander Abdul Haq said.

He said the rebels had penetrated a government security barrier around Kabul, adding that 13 mujahedeen were killed and 20 seriously wounded in the fighting as "our forces advanced in the direction of the military garrison of Chahar-wazgai." The spokesman said the rebels captured 15 soldiers and officers and seized about 100 weapons.

Meanwhile Afghan government radio broadcasts monitored here, where a seven-faction Afghan resistance alliance is based, said Kabul had sent 100 combat tanks to the area to stop the rebels' advance. The reports followed President Najibullah's departure Sunday for the Soviet Union for up to three weeks.

The Afghan conflict was raised Wednesday in Irkutsk, Siberia, where U.S. Secretary of State James Baker was meeting with his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze, who spoke of "rapprochement" between Moscow and Washington regarding the Afghan peace process.

Rocket Attack Injures One in Kabul

LD0508165290 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] As a result of the impact of three surface-to-surface missiles launched by the extremists, one Kabul citizen was wounded today. A BAKHTAR military section reports that the missiles, which were fired from the north, have also caused material damage.

40 Prisoners Released From Kabul Central Jail

LD0608153290 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1330 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] A National Security Court source reports that in line with President Najibullah's Decree 65, dated 27 May, on the release of prisoners in connection with the convening of the Loya Jerga, 40 prisoners were today released from the central jail. On the basis of the aforementioned presidential decree, 306 prisoners have been released from prison in the capital by the commission implementing the decree. The source adds that the release of prisoners continues in the capital and the provinces.

Mopping-up Operations in Paghman Detailed

LD0308170690 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Text] Organs of the Ministry of State Security today carried out mopping-up operations at the environs of Paghman District. According to a report by the BAKHTAR military section 11 surface-to-surface cluster missiles, 12 Mezael, 4 mortar mines and 125 gunshells placed by extremists in that district to carry out terrorist and subversive actions, were uncovered with complete cooperation of the local people and were removed.

'Extremist' Ringleaders Killed by Rival Group

LD0608171390 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Muhammad Nasim Khinjani, a ringleader of Rabani's extremist group, Muhammad Esmail, his deputy, and Fazl Rahman, another ringleader of the aforementioned group in Baghlan Province, and Sayyed Hamidollah, yet another ringleader of the group in Emam Saheb district of Konduz Province, were killed recently by the extremist Gulbuddiin group. The BIA military section reports that the killings occurred due to differences between the rival groups.

Recent Military Operations Reported

LD0608173890 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] During the past four days Pakistani agents have launched heavy-weapons attacks against some of the frontlines of the units at security posts, and against some residential areas. In response to these criminal actions, the resistance centers and positions of the enemies of peace and security for our people were subjected to artillery and air strikes as a result of which 61 of them were ousted from their combat lines during the past four days in Nangarhar province. Eleven assorted machine guns, four rocket launchers, six mortars, and one weapons and ammunition cache belonging to them were destroyed.

Some armed forces units carried out ambushes in Samarkhel area as a result of which 96 (Mizael) rockets, 13 57-mm shells, and eight mortar rounds of the enemy were seized. Two personnel of the armed forces units were martyred as a result of the enemy heavy-weapons fire, and six civilians and four military personnel were wounded.

A source in the armed forces adds that units and companies stationed at Khowst major district are prepared to repulse every kind of enemy attack and are strengthening their defense lines. During the past four days armed extremists linked to Pakistani and Wahabi mercenaries have launched sporadic attacks on some parts of Khowst city and the front lines of units in Gorboz, Esmai'l Khel, Yaqubi, and (Baz) as a result of which one member of the armed forces was martyred and eight civilians, including two children, as well as three members of the units were wounded.

In retaliation, the enemy positions were brought under artillery and air strikes as a result of which 44 Pakistani agents were ousted from their combat lines.

The source states that units and companies stationed in Ghazni province recently carried out mopping-up operations from the south and west and cleansed the region of Mir Shahbaz, Qala-e Kalantar, and Khwaja Ashnai and Qalandar villages from the existence of armed extremist warmongers. As a result of a combat operation carried out in this province, 31 foreign agents have been ousted from the combat lines. Several enemy BM-12 units one recoilles gun, and five mortars were destroyed.

The source adds that no enemy activity has been monitored in Qandahar province during the last four days and units and companies of the armed forces remain in their previous positions.

The enemies of peace and security of our people fired heavy weapons on a number of security posts of Qandahar garrison and Kalat city. In order to neutralize these terrorist actions, their positions were brought under fire by the units as a result of which 18 warmongers were killed. Six missile launchers, three mortars, and one recoilless gun were destroyed. Three army personnel were martyred and five civilians including two children, and two army personnel were wounded.

Bangladesh

President Ershad Reshuffles Cabinet 4 Aug

BK0408164090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1619 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] Dhaka, Aug 4 (AFP)—Following is the list of Council of Ministers after President Hussain Mohammad Ershad reshuffled portfolios Saturday, stripping Vice President Moudud Ahmed of his long-held industries portfolio:

—the president himself holds the portfolios of defence, national security, cabinet and establishment.
—vice president (in charge of planning, special affairs (welfare): Moudud Ahmed
—prime minister (in charge of education): Kazi Zafar Ahmed
—deputy prime minister (in charge of food): Shah Moazzam Hussain

—ministers:
—finance: Abdul Munim
—home affairs: Mahmudul Hasan
—foreign affairs: Anisul Islam Mahmud
—labour and manpower: Sirajul Hussain Khan
—communications: Anwar Hussain
—jute: Sheikh Shahidul Islam
—industries: Abdus Sattar
—agriculture: Sardar Amjad Hussain
—forest and environment: Zafar Imam
—commerce: Shamsul Haq
—land: Tajul Islam Chowdhury
—irrigation, water development and flood control: A.B.M. Ghulam Mustafa
—works: Mustafa Jamal Haider
—social welfare: Rizwanul Haq Chowdhury
—energy and mineral resources: Ziauddin Ahmed
—textile: Ruhul Amin Howaldar
—civil aviation and tourism: H.M.A. Gaffar
—local government, rural development and cooperatives: Naziur Rahman
—post and telecommunications: Kazi Feroz Rashid
—health and family planning: Dr. Azizur Rahman
—women affairs: Razia Faiz (Mrs.) [name as received]
—ports and shipping: Mamdudur Rahman Chowdhury
—law and justice: Habibul Islam Bhuiyan [name as received]
—information: Mizanur Rahman Shelly

state ministers:
—cultural affairs: Syed Deedar Bakht
—relief and rehabilitation: Monzur Quader
—fisheries and livestock: Faruque Rashid Chowdhury
—labour and manpower: Khaledur Rahman
—law and justice: Fazle Rabbi
—food: Mohammed Nurunnabi Chand
—jute: A.B.M. Shajahan
—youth and sports: Nitia Roy Chowdhury
—agriculture: Syed Mohammed Kaiser
—religious affairs: Kazi Mufazzal Hussain Kaikobad

advisers:
—adviser for non-governmental organisations (NGO): Michale Sushil Kumar Adhikari
—adviser for primary education: Mohammed Monsur Ali Sarkar

Opposition Says Pakistan Democracy Threatened

BK0708061190 Hong Kong AFP in English 0534 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Dhaka, Aug 7 (AFP)—Bangladesh's major opposition groups Tuesday said the abrupt dismissal of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was a threat to democracy in Pakistan. The Dhaka government meanwhile described Ms. Bhutto's ouster as an internal Pakistani affair and refused to comment.

Salam Talukder, general secretary of the opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party, said "The process of democracy that began with the victory of Ms. Bhutto is now threatened because of the prime minister's sudden dismissal." He said that since Pakistan had a parliament, the premier's removal could have been decided by the outcome of a planned opposition no-confidence motion.

Bangladesh's opposition has been campaigning for "free and fair" elections here for the past eight years. Amir Hossain Amu, a top leader of the opposition Awami League, said "The step by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan is a sign of conspiracy against democracy" in Pakistan. He added that it was a repetition of the practice of seizing power through conspiracy since the birth of Pakistan, which has repeatedly come under military rule.

Abdur Rab, leader of the opposition in parliament, called for stability in Pakistan saying "We want the constitutional process continues there." But the rightist Jamaat-e Eslami headed by Abbas Ali Khan said moves such as Mr. Khan's helped boost democratic institutions, as Mr. Khan had followed the constitutional process.

Bangladesh, formerly East Pakistan, broke away in 1971 to become an independent country after a nine-month war.

Investment Bureaus To Open in Three Countries

BK0308160990 Hong Kong AFP in English 1534 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Text] Dhaka, Aug 3 (AFP)—Bangladesh will open investment bureaus in three asian countries to boost trade, an official said here Friday. The official said Dhaka would soon open the bureaus in Japan, Hong Kong and South Korea and that they would be operated by officials from the ministry of industries.

The ministry of finance has approved 10 million taka (2.85 million U.S. dollars) for the bureaus, which will be located in Bangladesh's embassies. The official said the step was also aimed at narrowing Bangladesh's trade gap with most of its trading partners.

The Bangladesh parliament passed a bill Tuesday granting residence or citizenship to foreign entrepreneurs in a bid to boost the country's sluggish economy. The bill provides resident status for foreign businessmen investing a "non-refundable" 75,000 dollars in the country, and citizenship to those investing either 500,000 dollars in the industrial sector, or depositing one million dollars with local investment institutions. The bill amended the Bangladesh citizenship (temporary provision) order of 1972.

Home Minister Mahmudul Hasan said the amendment was aimed at speeding up industrialisation—one of the major targets of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad—by attracting foreign entrepreneurs.

Mobs Attack Striking Doctors; Patients Injured

BK0708055790 Hong Kong AFP in English 0516 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Dhaka, Aug 7 (AFP)—A mob armed with sticks attacked striking doctors at a government hospital in northwestern Bangladesh, injuring 12 people, newspapers here reported Tuesday. Most of those hurt were patients when the protestors raided the Rajshahi Medical College Hospital's alternative free out-door ward late Monday, chanting slogans against the doctors' strike, the reports said.

The Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA), which launched the nationwide strike July 28 to demand the scrapping of a new health care plan, said that two of its members were injured in the attack. Heavy police contingents were deployed in the area.

The BMA said Tuesday that the director general of the Government Health Services, Dr. Abu Taher Siddiqui, had pledged to join in a mass resignation planned by the BMA's government doctors on August 15 unless their demands were met. There was no immediate confirmation of the announcement from Dr. Siddiqui. Observers here said that with the resignation of the top government doctor, the health sector, already paralysed by the stoppage, could "collapse."

The BMA, representing more than 10,000 doctors, Monday rejected a presidential appeal to end their campaign and negotiate with the government. Officials sources said the Health Ministry was preparing papers to declare the Health Services "essential," enabling authorities to take legal action against government doctors who refuse to return to work.

The BMA, which has repeatedly refused to enter into talks unless the new health policy is scrapped, said the government plans would not affect its stand. The new health policy, which would become law if passed at parliament's next session, includes a ban on private practice by government doctors, a restriction that would drastically limit their income.

In 10 days since the strike started, 76 patients have reportedly died in hospitals. Officials say the deaths occurred because either the doctors were unavailable or refused to treat them. The BMA refuses to comment on the deaths.

BMA leaders held seperate talks Monday with opposition leaders Sheikh Hasina Wajed of the Awami League and Begum Khaleda Zia of the Bangladesh nationalist party, who reiterated their support for the doctors campaign, sources said.

India

Front Meeting Expresses 'Confidence' in Singh

Adopts Resolution

BK0308130190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Text] The National Front parliamentary party has unanimously expressed full confidence in the leadership of the prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh. At a meeting in New Delhi this evening, it adopted a resolution to this effect moved by Mr. Ajit Singh and seconded by Mr. Dinesh Goswami. The chairman of the National Front, Mr. N.T. Rama Rao, said there was no dissent. Besides the prime minister, those who attended the meeting included the Janata Dal president, Mr. S.R. Bommai, and the chief ministers of Assam, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Gujarat. Mr. Devi Lal and Mr. Chandra Shekhar were also present. There will be no separate meeting of the Janata Dal parliamentary party.

Details on Meeting; Singh Remarks

BK0308164590 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Text] The National Front parliamentary party has reaffirmed its full faith and confidence in the leadership of the prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh. At an emergency meeting of the parliamentary party in New Delhi this evening, a resolution to this effect was adopted without opposition. The resolution was moved by Mr. Ajit Singh and seconded by Mr. Dinesh Goswami. Two hundred and five members out of the total 212 Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha members of the National Front attended the meeting. The chief ministers—Mr. Biju Patnaik, Mr. Mulayem Singh Yadav, Mr. Lalu Prasad Jadav, Mr. Chiman Bhai Patel and Mr. D. Ramachandran—were among the special invitees. The National Front chairman, Mr. N.T. Rama Rao, and the presidium members—Dr. Karunanidhi, DMK [Dravida Munnetra Kazagham]; Mr. P.K. Mahanta, AGP [Asom Gana Parishad]; Mr. Sharat Chandra Sinha, Congress-S; and Mr. S.R. Bommai, Janata Dal—took part in the meeting. Mr. Devi Lal and Mr. Chandra Shekhar were also present.

At the outset, the prime minister recalled the efforts that led to the formation of the National Front of like-minded parties. He said this was a dream of Mr. N.T. Rama Rao to provide an alternative to the Congress-I and Mr. Devi Lal made a significant contribution to achieve it. He said we all have a responsibility of fulfilling the promises made to the people in the election manifesto. Mr. V.P. Singh said there might have been some shortcomings, but the government has done its best. Listing some of the achievements, he said 50 percent of the total resources have now been earmarked for the rural areas in the current budget as well as in the eighth plan. A new agricultural policy is on the anvil. He said a national youth policy will be announced on Independence Day [15 August]. Mr. Singh said the biggest challenge is to bring social justice, and in this context he referred to government's commitment to carry out the recommendations of the Mandal Commission [on backward classes]. He said the government is going ahead with the implementation of the report even though some chief ministers have not conveyed their views.

The prime minister also outlined several other steps being taken by the government for the benefit of the weaker sections. These include statutory provision for reservation in jobs for scheduled castes and tribes, strengthening of the panchayati raj [rural local body-level administration] institutions and implementation of the right to work and making the best use of available resources.

Mr. N.T. Rama Rao said crores of people have reposed their faith in the National Front, and it is the responsibility of everybody in the front to extend support and strengthen the hands of the prime minister so that the government can redeem the pledges made in the election manifesto. Thereafter, Mr. Ajit Singh moved a formal resolution reaffirming confidence in the leadership of Mr. V.P. Singh. A few members, including Mr. Devi Lal, said there was no need for the formal resolution. Mr. Devi Lal also said that the leadership issue was an internal matter of the Janata Dal. Mr. N.T. Rama Rao however pointed out that the prime minister belongs to the National Front and not to the Janata Dal alone. He said any member has a right to move a resolution. He then put the motion to vote and none opposed it.

Briefing newsmen, the parliamentary party spokesman, Mr. Ajay Singh, said that pre-session meetings of the National Front and the Janata Dal parliamentary parties will be held on Monday [6 August]. The parliamentary affairs minister, Mr. P. Upendra was present at the briefing. In reply to a question, Mr. Ajay Singh said the emergency meeting of the National Front parliamentary party was called as some senior leaders felt that because of the developments in the past few weeks a categorical message should go to the people that the National Front is unitedly behind the prime minister.

Later, the prime minister told Doordarshan [Indian television] that the National Front constituent parties and the Janata Dal have expressed faith in the programs and policies of the government. Mr. V.P. Singh said the task before the government is to implement these policies so that the faith reposed in it is fulfilled.

The prime minister said that at present there is no proposal to induct a deputy prime minister in the cabinet. He ruled out the possibility of a cabinet reshuffle in the immediate future. He however added that arrangements are to be made so that ministries like agriculture are looked after.

Devi Lal Claims Cabinet Removal Work of 'Elite'

Gives News Conference

BK0408091190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] The former deputy prime minister, Mr. Devi Lal, has said that all the people living in rural areas and urban slums should be declared as backward. Addressing a news conference in Chandigarh today, he said the reservation of Backward Classes under the Mandal commission report should be raised from 27 percent to 37 percent.

Referring to his dropping from the union cabinet, Mr. Devi Lal said he does not think that the prime minister had betrayed him. He described it as a conspiracy of urban elite. Mr. Devi Lal said the National Front government with Mr. V.P. Singh as prime minister will complete its five year term.

Referring to the proposed kissan [farmers] rally at the Boat Club in New Delhi on Thursday [9 August], he said this is being organized to create awareness among the farmers about their rights and to highlight their demands. The prime minister will also be invited for the rally, Mr. Devi Lal added.

Comments on Inflation, Unemployment

BK0508152790 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] The former deputy prime minister, Mr. Devi Lal, has said the major problems facing the country today are rising prices and unemployment. In a meet-the-press program organized by the union of working journalists in Jaipur, he said Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir issues also need to be solved on a priority basis, but the present government has diverted public attention and instead played up the Chautala [Devi Lal's son] issue.

About the kisan [farmers] rally slated for the 9th of this month in New Delhi, he said the objective of the rally is to strengthen the party and highlight various issues of public interest. About rural-urban division, Mr. Devi Lal said he is not against urbanization, but against capitalists who exploit poor masses.

Legislators Say Haryana Chief Loses Confidence

Meet With Prime Minister

BK0508091090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] About 30 Janata Dal MLA's [Members of the Legislative Assembly] from Haryana met the prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, in New Delhi this morning. They claimed that the present chief minister of Haryana, Mr. Hukam Singh, has lost the confidence of the state Janata Dal legislature party. They were led by Mr. Banarsi Das Gupta. Later, Mr. Gupta told newsmen that the prime minister gave them a patient hearing. He also said the MLA's are planning to meet the party president, Mr. S.R. Bommai, today.

Demand Chief Seek Trust Vote

BK0508162190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Twenty-nine Janata Dal MLA's [Members of the Legislative Assembly] from Haryana have demanded that the new chief minister, Mr. Hukam Singh, should seek a vote of confidence from the legislature party. They met the party president, Mr. S.R. Bommai, in New Delhi today and submitted a memorandum requesting for a meeting of the legislature party within 48 hours. At their meeting, which lasted more than an hour, the MLA's also said this is necessary in view of what they called the present situation. Later, speaking to newsmen, Mr. Bommai said he will examine the issue and take necessary action as soon as possible. Replying to a question, he said he can summon a meeting of the state legislature party, if necessary, after giving sufficient notice to the members. He denied that there is any crisis in the Haryana Janata Dal, as this is only a democratic process. Mr. Bommai said the Haryana delegation included eight MLA's who had been expelled by the state party president earlier and who wanted their expulsion to be revoked. He said he will go through the records and the provisions of the party constitutions and rules before taking any action. Mr. Bommai however said prima facie state presidents appear to have no powers for expelling or suspending MLA's or MP's [Members of Parliament].

Earlier in the morning, the Haryana MLA's led by Mr. Banarsi Das Gupta called on the prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh. They claimed that the present chief minister has lost the confidence of the legislature party. Mr. Gupta told newsmen that the prime minister gave them a patient hearing.

Spokesman Hopes Iraq Will Soon Withdraw Troops

BK0308161590 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Text] India has regretted that Iraq and Kuwait are not settling their differences in a peaceful manner. An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that India is opposed to the use of force in any form between the two countries. India hoped that Iraq would soon withdraw its troops from Kuwait. The spokesman said New Delhi also hopes that various consultations going on, including the NAM [Non-aligned Movement] initiatives, would facilitate the process so that Iraq and Kuwait settle their differences.

Government Urged to Protect Citizens in Kuwait

BK0508092390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Communist Party of India-Marxist Kerala State Secretary Mr. V.S. Achutanandan has appealed to the Union Government to take immediate steps to ensure the safety of the lives and property of the Malayalis in Kuwait. In a telegraphic message to Prime Minister V.P. Singh and External Affairs Minister Mr. I.K. Gujral, Mr. Achutanandan said that the people of [Kerala] state are very anxious about the conditions of Malyalis there. Kerala Pradesh [State] Congress Committee-I President Mr. A.K. Anthony also sent separate messages to the prime minister and the external affairs minister urging them to make arrangements to keep a steady flow of information to the Kerala government about the conditions of the Malyalis in Kuwait.

Meanwhile, according to agency reports, banks in Kerala have stopped encashment of Kuwaiti dinar following the outbreak of hostilities between Iraq and Kuwait.

Pilgrims Stranded in Iraq After Airport Closure

BK0508125690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Iraqi troops have started withdrawing from Kuwait three days after invading the oil-rich country. The official IRAQI NEWS AGENCY and the radio of the Iraq-backed provisional government of Kuwait said the withdrawal began in the early hours today. [passage omitted]

An External Affairs Ministry spokesman said in New Delhi today that a group of Indian pilgrims is stranded in Iraq following the closure of the Baghdad Airport. The Indian Embassy there is providing necessary help to them.

Minister on Impact of Oil Price Hike, Invasion

BK0608095290 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] The union minister of petroleum and chemicals, Mr. M.S. Gurupadaswamy, has said the recent price hike by OPEC and the Iraqi action on Kuwait is bound to have its impact on India's oil import bill. In an interview to UNI [UNITED NEWS OF INDIA], Mr. Gurupadaswamy said the increase from 18 to 21 dollars a barrel announced by the OPEC will adversely affect our foreign exchange position. The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait has disrupted the oil supply, adding further pressure on the country. The Soviet Union is having its own foreign exchange problems to review the supply of crude oil to India. He said international oil experts were apprehending a hike in the crude oil price ranging from the present price level to even 40 dollars a barrel.

The petroleum minister said there is no alternative but to maintain strict austerity in the use of petroleum products and to keep the import bill under control.

Four Pakistan-Trained 'Terrorists' Arrested

BK0408161790 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] Security forces arrested four Pak-trained terrorists in Srinagar today. Some arms and ammunition were recovered from them. In the border district of Punch, eight militants have surrendered to the police. In Jammu city, police recovered 10 Chinese hand grenades from a house during a raid last night. Five persons are being interrogated in this connection.

Four 'Terrorists' Among Nine Killed in Punjab

BK0508151390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] In Punjab, nine persons, including four terrorists have been killed in separate incidents since last night. According to an official spokesman, one of the four terrorists who attacked a retired colonel at his house in Sangrur District was killed when the colonel returned the fire last night. In two separate encounters with the security forces, two terrorists were killed—one in Faridkot District and the other in Ferozepore District. In another incident in Ferozepore District, terrorists gunned down a member of a rival gang in Zira area. In Amritsar District, terrorists gunned down four persons. In Gurdaspur District, terrorists also shot dead a woman.

Iran

Commentary Urges Iranian Role in Gulf Security

NC0508075690 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0454 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Commentary prepared by the Central News Unit's Research Group]

[Text] Iraq's occupation of Kuwait started in the early hours of Thursday [2 August], and in a matter of only a few hours the entire territory of Kuwaiti was occupied. Scattered resistance by the Kuwaiti Armed Forces to the Iraqi troops continued for two days. The Kuwaiti amir and the al-Sabah family fled to Saudi Arabia in the first hours after the outbreak of the war. After the overthrow of the al-Sabah regime, Iraq announced that a provisional free government had seized power in Kuwait.

In this important development, which sparked off great concern and surprise, there are several points that should be studied. The eight-hour occupation of Kuwait shows that the Iraqi attack was carefully planned and that Saddam had prepared this scenario a few weeks earlier, when he started his threats against the Persian Gulf emirates and especially Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, and that the raising of the issues of border differences and the plundering of oil by Kuwait were mere pretexts. Also, the solution of the so-called political and border differences between Iraq and Kuwait by resorting to force was the natural outcome of the policies

of the East and the West in the past, when they encouraged Saddam to carry out aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Kuwait, which gave Saddam about $30 billion in assistance during the war and which—by paying the bills for the purchase of advanced war materiel for the Iraqi Armed Forces—practically encouraged Iraq to carry out aggression against its eastern neighbor, is now paying for its past mistakes.

Meanwhile, the United States, which once sent its warships to the region at Kuwait's request and within the framework of its support for Iraq, is now unable to do anything to meet the official request of Kuwait and the Persian Gulf emirates to thwart Iraq's aggression against Kuwait. Having armed Iraq with various advanced weapons to continue its aggression against Iran, the United States is now obliged to think of the consequences before resorting to any military act. This was a topic which the mass media of Western arrogance discussed extensively in their reports and comments following the major Iraqi aggression against Kuwait.

In order to draw a line between principled and profit-seeking stands, one should carefully assess the West's negative stand on the Palestinian problem and its combatant people and its stand on the Iraqi aggression against our country. The West's stands depend on its plundering interests and it does not take into account what is just and unjust.

The Iraqi propaganda attack against Kuwait came at a time when Kuwait had instructed a Western bank to demand the repayment of several billion dollars owed to it by Iraq. But Saddam wanted these debts to be completely erased. Since the Kuwaiti Government could not give in to this demand, Iraq resorted to force and occupied that country so that in this way it could make Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates—which gave Iraq loans worth billions of dollars during the imposed war—understand that asking for the repayment of these loans would have grave consequences.

Meanwhile it is clear that the policies of some of the Persian Gulf countries, within the framework of the strategy of dependence on the superpowers to preserve their national security, have now shown their worth. It is also clear that the regional countries can look forward to preserving the security of the Persian Gulf only by cooperating with the Islamic Republic of Iran under the aegis of our country's plan.

OPEC Urged To Stick To Geneva Agreements

LD0608124990 Tehran IRNA in English 1102 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 6, IRNA—Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh today urged OPEC member states to stick to the agreements they reached at the 87th OPEC Conference in Geneva last month. He also called on them to preserve their restraint vis-a-vis the present conditions in the world oil market saying that temporary conditions should not affect long-term policies of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Aqazadeh was referring to the impact the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait had left on the oil market leading to price rises. He stressed that commitment to observing the production quotas was essential.

Speaking at a news conference here, the oil minister said that Iran will continue to observe its official output quota as before. The minister considered as natural the positive reaction of the oil market to the recent developments in Kuwait and said a halt or restriction in oil exports from Kuwait and Iraq would cause the consumers to utilise their strategic oil resources. This will help balance the oil market, he added.

The oil minister said that the OPEC agreement does not allow any country to make up for the shortages of oil production or supply by one or two members. Predicting that the increase in oil prices will continue, he said the market is presently favorable but was not sure how long it would continue. "Therefore the member states should preserve their self-control."

Asked about the likely impact of foreign intervention in the regional developments, Aqazadeh said Iran condemned the Iraqi military action because it was not right. Likewise, he added, the presence of foreign forces would not help improve the condition but further destabilise the region.

Elsewhere in the conference Aqazadeh categorically denied a NEW YORK TIMES report that Iraq had informed Iran of its military aggression against Kuwait during the last month's OPEC meet. He said his talks with his OPEC counterparts only centered on oil issues and cooperation to increase the prices.

On the effects of the recent regional developments on the oil export and sale by the Persian Gulf countries, he said there was no problem in this connection and the procedure was natural. However, he said, its future depends on the future condition of the region.

Aqazadeh said the two Iranian ships seized at Kuwait borders by Iraqi forces were possibly passenger or commercial ones and had nothing to do with oil issues.

"Hormuz" and "Iran Safir," two Iranian ships anchored at a Kuwaiti port, were seized by Iraqi forces after their invasion of Kuwait.

With the increase in oil prices in the world markets, Iran's oil has been sold at over $23 per barrel, he said adding that this rising trend will possibly continue in the future. He explained that Iran's oil is being transacted on the basis of daily prices and this calculation is also considered for long-term contracts.

The minister regarded the recent strike by the British North Sea oilmen as another factor contributing to further pushing up of the oil prices.

Iraq Crisis Blamed on Former Supporters

LD0608162190 Tehran IRNA in English 1340 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 6, IRNA—Iran's persistent warnings rang true last Thursday, when the world once again saw the inherent aggressiveness of the Ba'thist regime of Iraq, and this time the tightening of its tentacles around the oil-rich glands of sovereign independent Kuwait.

In the early hours of Ashura—the tragic martyrdom anniversary of the prophet's (PBUH) [peace be upon him] grandson Imam Husayn (PBUH)—Saddam Husayn's forces overran the Arab shaykhdom, which ironically had played the role of a god-father in Baghdad's 8-year war against the Islamic state of Iran.

For the time being, tiny Kuwait which invited the American Navy into the Persian Gulf on Saddam's side, breathes no more. With its Shaykh, a stateless person, and its powerful dinar which bankrolled the Iraqi military, mere garbage, Kuwait is a non entity, swallowed up by the dangerous pet it reared.

But for international political and news circles, it is necessary to survey the backdrop and causes which gave birth to such a regime in the Persian Gulf region. Since only through a precise assessment one can recognize those factors which were effectual in the emergence of such a dangerous phenomenon.

To this end, it seems appropriate to propound the following facts which are issues worthy to be discussed in diplomatic circles.

1. Ba'athist Iraq, throughout the eight years of its war against Islamic Iran repeatedly proved its scant regard for the generally-accepted human rights, international norms and regulations.

To prove the point, it would be enough to recall a few examples of Iraqi atrocity such as the invading of Iranian territory, starting air attacks against commercial ships and oil tankers in the Persian Gulf, targeting civil aircraft and trains, shelling residential areas in Iran, and, last but not least, massive deployment of chemical weapons against not only Iranian civilian and soldiers but also against Iraqi citizens fed up with Ba'athist rule.

2. The next important point to note is, the Iraqi regime committed its crimes against the Islamic Republic with full political, military and media support from both the West and the East, the United States and its regional clients in particular. Obviously, these states are primarily responsible for encouraging the aggressiveness of the Iraqi regime.

3. A decade ago, the United Nations Security Council which is currently making such a hue and cry, issued a resolution after a four-day delay with the Iraqi troops deeply entrenched in Iranian soil. However, the resolution did not call for the withdrawal of the invading Ba'athist forces to the international borders, but merely asked the two sides to exercise "self- restraint", implying that Islamic Iran should not fight the aggressor.

Moreover, inspite of the identification of the Iraqi ruler as the unitiator of the 8-year long war by most international circles, the U.N. Security Council never branded Saddam Husayn as the invader. Therefore, the council is guilty of approving the Iraqi invasion.

4. The European Economic Community (EEC), a regional body of economically powerful countries, was fully aware of the Iraqi invasion, but as a tame ally of the United States it intentionally ignored to condemn the Iraqi regime.

Without doubt, EEC is also guilty of inciting the invader, who has now occupied oil-rich Kuwait in all its entirety.

5. The Non-Aligned Movement and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) also bear the responsibility, because they turned a blind eye to the repeated violations of international regulations by the Iraqi regime.

6. The Arab League, particularly its reactionary faction including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Morocco, Egypt, Jordan and Tunisia played an effective role in goading the Iraqi ruler to continue his invasion of the Islamic Republic of Iran during his almost 8-year war.

Egypt and Jordan despatched forces and military equipment while Saudi Arabia and Kuwait channelled tens of billions of dollars to Ba'athist Iraq, in addition to their propaganda tirade against the Islamic Republic.

Their efforts to set up a "fancy hero" for the heterogenous Arab world having misfired, these regimes instead created a "frankenstein monster" who is now tormenting his own masters more than anyone else.

Reactionary heads should have no doubts left by now that they themselves breathed the spirit of aggression and invasion in Iraq's Ba'athist regime.

7. Undoubtedly, the United States is one of the major elements responsible for the creation of a "dangerous phenomenon" like the Iraqi regime.

Supporting the Ba'athist invasion of Iran with complete awareness of Saddam's objectives, passing intelligence information on Iranian forces in collaboration with Saudi Arabia, pressuring international circles to favour Iraq, and intervention in the imposed war to rescue Saddam, are among factors which leave no room for doubt that the United States was the chief culprit behind such a phenomenon.

8. If the West was in the lead, the eastern superpower did not lag far behind in its support for the aggressor. Soviet arms increased the military muscle of the Ba'athist regime, and Iraq's 8-year invasion of Iran and the present occupation of Kuwait have become possible only in the light of modern Soviet armaments.

Also, one cannot overlook the close political-military relations between Moscow and Baghdad over the past years, which gave birth to expansionist ideas in the mind of the Iraqi ruler.

The fact is, Iraq occupied Kuwait with an assortment of modern weaponry supplied by the Soviet Union, Britain, Italy, France and China, and financed by Arab reactionaries with Washington's political blessings in order to achieve the following objectives:

A.With his efforts to defeat the Islamic revolution and partition Iran foiled, the forlorn "champion of Qadessiyah" flexing propaganda muscles, styled himself "the hero of a new war" among ironically, the Arabs themselves, in a bid to seize the leadership of the Arab world.

B.By installing a new puppet regime in Kuwait, Ba'athist Iraq hopes to exploit the economic potential of the rich Shaykhdom, and would enjoy its immense wealth if it could successfully orchestrate its withdrawal.

C.By occupying Kuwait, it aims to broaden its outlet to the Persian Gulf waters, since Iraq's lack of capability to use the Arvand River has limited its access to the Persian Gulf.

D.And, by baring its fangs and claws at other regional oil-rich Shaykhs, who financed his war machine, Baghdad hopes to gag them into virtual thraldom.

Although other dimensions of the plot concerning the occupation of Kuwait and the parties involved, remain unknown, the invasion has propped up several interesting points.

(1) The U.S. and its allies in NATO who sailed their fleets into the Persian Gulf in the last years of the imposed war under the pretext of guaranteeing the security of Kuwait and other sheikhdoms, are now saying that the Iraqi invasion of the state whose safety they were here to safeguard, has caught them off guard.

In fact their refusal to take any measure in this regard despite their vociferous slogans reveals many realities of the imposed war.

(2) Washington, citing various reasons including the problems as it says, for a massive attack on Kuwait or Iraq, its fears of Iraq setting afire the oil wells of Saudi Arabia and other states, and above all, its lack of enthusiasm for an all out confrontation in the light of the interests it persues in Iraq, has refused to launch a military attack against the Ba'athist regime.

Certainly, this attitude weakens the pillars of trust put in the United States by client states.

(3) The Arab states have failed to take a joint and decisive position against Iraq, and the grouping of several reactionaries with Saddam coupled with the fears of others, has effectively prevented any decision by the disputing divided Arabs.

Moreover, the abject helplessness of the 6-state (Persian) Gulf Cooperation Council [(P)GCC] of which free Kuwait was a member, for standing up to the invader Iraq, reveals the very weakness of such bodies for taking practical steps, and proves that the aim behind the setting up of the (P)GCC was not to ward off aggression on any member state but to scheme and plot collectively against the Islamic revolution in Iran.

(4) Though at first glance, it seems the invasion of Kuwait implies "the sudden mania" of the regime in Baghdad, one should bear in mind that Iraq has occupied Kuwait with premeditations, and therefore, follows clear calculated objectives in this regard.

In such a significantly sensitive situation for Iran, the region and the world at large, Iranian officials in charge of foreign policy should accurately evaluate the current developments and take wise and effective measures concerning the Persian Gulf and the Middle East region.

The emergence of any kind of gendarme in this vital spot of the world (Persian Gulf) is out of question and totally unacceptable.

It is hoped the invasion of Kuwait would finally awaken Persian Gulf states and make them watch regional developments with vigilant open eyes, capable of distinguishing between friends and mortal foes.

Rulers of littoral states should well recall the advice of the late leader of the Islamic revolution Imam Khomeyni during the years of the imposed war, cautioning them against helping the aggressor and warning that tiny statelets of the Persian Gulf might fall victims to the expansionist greed of Iraq's Ba'thist regime.

It is time the Islamic Republic of Iran should stress its clear position on the withdrawal of all foreign forces from the Persian Gulf.

Further strengthening of the Iranian Armed Forces, and organizing and training popular forces should be especially considered as a defensive strategy. Equipment of the Iranian Navy with advanced and modern arms is "an inevitable need of the hour".

IRGC Commander on Problems Facing U.S.

LD0608201690 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1700 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Following the onslaught of Iraqi forces against Kuwaiti territory and the occupation of that country, our reporter had an interview with Mohsen Reza'i, chief commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], to which we draw your attention:

[Begin recording] [unidentified correspondent] What is your assessment of the military power of the Persian Gulf littoral states in the event of a new aggression by Iraq?

[Reza'i] It is unlikely that Iraq will continue its attack beyond Kuwait, the reason being that it has to digest this morsel that it has devoured. It has to solve its problems from the political standpoint, and it has to consolidate its military position. Later, Iraq may possibly have other

plans. At present, the Iraqi Armed Forces in Kuwait are very vulnerable since, just as has been mentioned, the Iraqi Armed Forces have been divided into three segments: one segment on the borders of Iran, another has gone to the Turkish border, and the other segment in Kuwait is very vulnerable.

[Correspondent] In your view, what is the likelihood of military interference on the part of the superpowers to safeguard the governments in the region.

[Reza'i] The action taken [by Iraq] is very dangerous and proves the correct stance and innocence of our country in continuing the eight-year war with the Iraqi regime. At that time, our officials repeatedly said: We are continuing the war because of humanitarian reasons. Today, it has been proven to the world that really, due to humanitarian reasons, we had identified an aggressor in the war and we wanted to punish him. The world did not punish him, and today he has taken off. The Americans, since they could not create scenarios like the Korean and Vietnam wars, are now facing a serious problem: if they want to bring in troops, they have a problem because of potential casualties, and if they just opt for bombardment, this may not be effective. If they want to pressure Arab countries, the latter are tied up with their own differences and are afraid of what Saddam may do to them in the future. We think that the Americans, though they are in the best position now to attack Iraq, have difficulties, both because they cannot sustain casualties and also because of the internal problems of Arab countries. Of course, the Americans are now trying to do something with the help of regional countries. But we think that though the Americans are able to carry out the simplest of tasks, nevertheless, because they have climbed down from that same former position they held in the world as a superpower and cannot manage the world as they did in the past, they cannot do anything effective, at least, not in the short term. [end recording]

[Announcer] Mr. Reza'i, in reply to a question as to how Iraq's aggression against Kuwait will affect the implementation of Security Council Resolution 598, said: We have accepted this resolution and we still stand by what we have said.

Further Reportage on Renewal of UK Relations

UK Spokesman's Statement Reported

LD0508083190 Tehran IRNA in English 0705 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] London, Aug. 5, IRNA—According to a British Foreign Office spokesman the British Government has received the reports on restoration of ties between Tehran and London with interest. The spokesman was commenting on the Saturday night decision of Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) ordering the Foreign Ministry to take the necessary measures for resumption of political ties with London. The SNSC decision came after the last Wednesday remarks of British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd who expressed respect for Islam and said that the blasphemous novel 'The Satanic Verses' was found deeply offensive by Muslims. Iran broke political ties with Britain in March 1989 following the British Government's support for Salman Rushdie, the Indian born author of the novel which blasphemed Islam.

The Foreign Office spokesman told IRNA here "we will study this report or any other message sent by the Iranian officials through the British interest section in Tehran." However, he added that there are still obstacles on the way of improvement of Tehran-London ties. The spokesman added that London expected the Iranian officials to demonstrate a major sign of goodwill.

Commentary Views Resumption of Ties

LD0508122590 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1050 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Following the position adopted by the British foreign secretary, stressing that the British Government and nation do not intend in any way to insult Islam, the National Security Supreme Council considers the declared positions an adequate response to the viewpoints of the Islamic Republic.

That means that the legal hurdle blocking restoration of diplomatic ties between the two countries has been removed. It is expected that through the follow-up efforts of the Foreign Ministry, diplomatic ties between London and Tehran will be resumed.

The printing and publication of the book THE SATANIC VERSES, in the year 1367 [21 March 1988-20 March 1989] not only aroused the protests of the world Muslims, but also brought about the severing of diplomatic relations between Iran and Britain—relations which, during the years after the victory of the Islamic revolution, had always been volatile and unstable. The decision [to cut off relations] was adopted on the basis of a bill proposed by the Majles in March 1989. According to the bill approved by the Majles, if the British Government did not formally announce its opposition to the unprincipled positions adopted against the world of Islam, the Islamic Republic, and the contents of the anti-Islamic book THE SATANIC VERSES within one week, our country's Foreign Ministry was ordered to sever all diplomatic ties between the two countries. In any case, though the prime minister of Britain agreed that THE SATANIC VERSES was insulting, the opposition of that country's government to the bill approved by the Majles led, in practice, to the severing of relations.

The severing of relations now merits revision in view of the recent position adopted by Douglas Hurd, the British foreign secretary, toward Islam and the issue of THE SATANIC VERSES. In that connection, the British foreign secretary, in reply to a question by a member of that country's Parliament, has denied any government role in the publication of THE SATANIC VERSES. In a

published statement, Islam has been named as one of the great world religions, with a fruitful history and a continued heritage. Another part of the statement says: We have the highest respect for Islam and its values. We are aware of the fact that THE SATANIC VERSES has injured the feelings of the followers of Islam. As the British prime minister has recently said, we admit that the followers of any religion will feel insulted by blasphemous views of their religion.

At the meeting of the National Security Supreme Council held in the presence of the president of the republic as well as the heads of the legislative and judiciary powers and other members, these positions were unanimously perceieved as an adequate response to the views of the Islamic Republic of Iran as reflected in the Majlis decision. It was confirmed that the views of the Majles have thus been met.

From the viewpoint of the Islamic Republic of Iran, having relations with world countries is a primary principle—relations which can, in the final analysis, bear valuable fruit in working for mutual interests and expansion of ties on the basis of mutual respect and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

At present, the Islamic Republic maintains expanded political and economic relations with all countries which have demonstrated, in practice, their obligation toward the principles governing political relations. Yet, while regarding the severence of relations as an exception [to the general rule], the Islamic revolution has proven that it does not want to have relations at any price, and that it expects the criteria and aspirations of the revolution to be respected by governments desiring mutual relations.

Paper Calls for Student's Release

NC0608131690 Paris AFP in English 1301 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug 6 (AFP)—Britain must take the next step to improve its ties with Tehran following Iran's favorable stance to renewing diplomatic relations with London, JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI newspaper said Monday. Iran's decision-making Supreme National Council said Saturday [4 August] that it favoured the renewal of ties after recent remarks by British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran, acting with great indulgence, has considered Hurd's statements enough to meet Tehran's term for resumption of diplomatic ties," said JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, a paper close to anti-Western Islamic hardliners.

"Thus, it is now London's turn to show goodwill and release the Iranian student Mehrdad Kowkabi from British jail," the daily said. It also stressed that the Iranian death decree against the Muslim-born British author Salman Rushdie would remain valid after any restoration of ties with Britain.

"As a sign of goodwill, (London) must stop protecting him and expel him or hand him over to Muslims," JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI added, describing Britain as a "lion with no mane, tail or belly."

Mr. Hurd said last week that Britain never intended to insult Islam and had nothing to do with publishing "The Satanic Verses", the novel by Mr. Rushdie that has been branded by many Muslims as blasphemous.

The British Government noted the Iranian national council's statement with "interest," but it has also called on Tehran to make "a substantive gesture of goodwill." Iran and Britain severed ties in March 1989, one month after the late spiritual guide, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, issued a death sentence against Mr. Rushdie.

The TEHRAN TIMES newspaper, which is close to the government, said Monday that the acceptance of Britain's stance "should be no means be taken as a weakness of any sort on the part of Iran." The decision "reflects only Iran's goodwill for friendly ties with all those governments which abandon hostile attitudes to Islam and the Islamic Republic," the paper said.

Pakistani Production Minister Arrives for Talks

LD0408035890 Tehran IRNA in English 1533 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 3, IRNA—Pakistan's Minister of State for Production Raja Shahid Zafar arrived here Friday afternoon on a four-day visit for talks on expansion of Tehran-Islamabad economic relations. The Pakistani official and the accompanying 14-member delegation were greeted at Tehran's Mehrabad international airport by Iran's Minister of Heavy Industries Hadi Nejad Hoseyniyan.

Both ministers expressed the hope that the visit will help promote bilateral industrial and technical relations.

Zafar is scheduled to hold talks with Iran's ministers of economic and financial affairs, agriculture, roads and transport and also tour several major industrial projects.

Meets Majles Speaker

LD0608112890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Mr. Raja Shahid Zafar, Pakistan's minister of state for production, today met with Mr. Karrubi, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Majles, and talked about the progress of talks and agreements between the two countries in the field of industrial and economic cooperation, as well as the profound spiritual ties between Iran and Pakistan and their expansion.

According to the report of the Central News Unit, Mr. Karrubi described the tumultuous movement and resistance of the Pakistani people in the course of the publication conspiracy surrounding the book The Satanic Verses, and their support for the fatwa [edict] of

his eminence the imam—may he be admitted to God's paradise—as a sign of sincerity and of the genuine feelings of the Muslim people of Pakistan. He stressed: The recent stances adopted by the West in connection with the values of the refulgent religion of Islam are the results of that resistance.

The Majles speaker described the Iraqi military move against Kuwait and the occupation of that country as dangerous for the security of the region, and added: In the course of eight years of holy defense, the Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly called for the punishment of the aggressor, and announced that the countries of the region would not be immune from its violations.

At the end of this meeting, Mr. Karrubi stated: Unfortunately, we are witnessing now with the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait the outcome and the consequencs of encouraging the aggressor. The Islamic Republic of Iran condemns this military action and calls for the immediate withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

Discusses Ties

LD0608180490 Tehran IRNA in English 1641 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug 6, IRNA—Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Mahdi Karrubi said to Pakistani minister of state for production, Raja Shahid Zafar, here today that Iraq's invasion of Kuwait has threatened security in the region. He said if the Iraqi Government should go unpunished it means the regional nations will not be living on a safe area of the world. The speaker of the Iranian Majlis noted that the Islamic Republic of Iran condemns Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and calls for the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces.

During the meeting, the two sides also discussed aspects of provisional agreements and bilateral talks between Iran and Pakistan on industrial cooperation, and hoped that cultural and industrial relations between the two countries would further broaden.

Hailing the position of the Pakistanis toward the blasphemous book of Salman Rushdie "The Satanic Verses" and their suport of the imam's death order (fatwa) for writer Rushdie, Hojj. Karrubi said that recent measures taken by Western countries is in response to the persistence of Muslim nations for implementation of Imam Khomeyni's historical judgement.

The Pakistani minister also separately met with the Iranian minister of economics and finance, Mohsen Nurbakhsh, and minister of heavy industries Hadi Nejad-Hoseyniyan today and called for improved industrial cooperation between Iran and Pakistan.

In his meeting with finance minister the Pakistani minister said his country and Iran can cooperate in various industrial areas such as auto-manufacturing, tractor manufacturing and steel industries.

Heavy industries minister told the Pakistani guest that Iran has made substantial investments on heavy industries which may be mutually exploited for the industries of Iran and Pakistan. The Iranian minister reminded that there are now unused capacities in many of the industries in Iran which may be used for Pakistan on the basis of common joint projects. The Pakistani minister invited the Iranian heavy industries minister to visit Pakistan on the occasion of an exhibition of Pakistan's industrial products in September. He is here to follow up previous agreements in principle between the two countries for mutal cooperaton in various industrial and technological areas as well as sign a letter of understanding at the end of the fifth joint commission of the two countries.

Pakistani Military Delegation Arrives 6 Aug

LD0608163290 Tehran IRNA in English 1559 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 6, IRNA—A high-ranking Pakistani military delegation arrived here today to inspect the Iranian military centers and talk with Iranian commanders.

The delegation comprises senior commanders from the three branches of the Pakistani Armed Forces, and is headed by General Mansur al-Haq, in charge of the training of the Pakistani Army.

During their seven-day stay here the Pakistani commanders will exchange views with their Iranian counterparts on further cooperation between the two countries.

UN Envoy Briefs Karrubi on Peace Talks

LD0608174490 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug 6, IRNA—Iran's permanent representative to the United Nations Kamal Kharrazi today met with Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Mehdi Karrubi. In the meeting, Kharrazi briefed the speaker on the latest developments in the peace talks in the context of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598. Kharrazi also reported on the cash and non-cash donations of the Muslims and the Iranians in the United States for the survivors of the June 21 earthquake.

Hoj. Karrubi thanked the envoy for his activities and called for the continuation of Iran's efforts under the Resolution 598. The speaker also thanked U.S. Muslims and the Iranians in the States for their aids.

Maldives

Statement Calls for Withdrawal of Iraqi Troops

BK0508042690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0414 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Colombo, Aug 5 (AFP)—The tiny Indian Ocean Islamic state of Maldives has condemned Iraq's invasion of Kuwait urging Baghdad to withdraw its troops

"unconditionally." In a statement released late Saturday through its high commission (embassy) here, Male urged the Iraqi Government to "immediately and unconditionally withdraw its troops from Kuwait."

Thousands of Iraqi troops invaded and occupied Kuwait on Thursday but Baghdad has pledged to conditionally begin pulling out its troops Sunday. The statement said the Maldives "has always opposed all acts of intervention and interference by states in the internal affairs of other states, and the use of force in the settlement of disputes."

The Muslim archipelago with a population of 200,000 enjoys excellent relations with both Kuwait and Iraq. "It is regrettable that the Maldives has to express a view against a country with whom it enjoys extremely good relations," the statement added.

Urging Iraq to allow Kuwaitis "to restore normalcy in their country" the Maldives Government called on Baghdad "to settle the dispute through peaceful means.

Nepal & Bhutan

Leftists Leaders Warn King Still Seeks Power

BK0408031090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0236 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] Kathmandu, Aug 4 (AFP)—Leaders of the United Left Front (ULF) have warned Prime Minister Krishna Prasad Bhattarai against an attempt by King Birendra to roll back the gains made by the pro-democracy movement earlier this year. "The king is going back on his earlier commitment despite surrendering all executive and legislative powers to the Council of Ministers," the ULF leaders charged in a statement.

The statement, issued Friday at the end of a two-day ULF meeting, pointed to the recent appointment of an ambassador, an auditor general and an election commissioner who all held senior posts under the previous government. The ULF said these appointments, made by the king, were a "flagrant violation of democratic principles and parliamentary practices."

Parliamentary democracy was restored in Nepal in April following two months of widespread protests against one-party rule, with King Birendra acceding to the protestor's demands for a new constitution. The ULF, which shares power with Mr. Bhattari's Nepali Congress in a coalition government, regretted that what it called "a palace conspiracy" should come as Nepal's draft constitution was in its final stages.

The leader of one of the parties in the ULF, Nirmal Lama of the Nepal Communist Party, threatened to resign from the constitutional drafting commission this week in protest over the appointment of former government officials to new posts. Mr. Lama later agreed to stay on the key commission following strong urging from his ULF colleagues, it was announced Friday.

The decision to stay on came after Mr. Bhattarai met with the king who reportedly assured him such appointments would not be made without the consent of the cabinet. In other developments, a ULF delegation met this week with the premier to iron out tensions caused by remarks made by a Nepali Congress leader critical of the ULF, party sources said.

Country 'Threatened' by Growing Labor Unrest

BK0508041290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1208 GMT 4 Aug 90

[By Kedar Man Singh]

[Text] Kathmandu, Aug 4 (AFP)—Nearly four months after pro-democracy protests brought a reformist government to power in Nepal, industry sources say the mountain kingdom is threatened by widespread labor unrest. After a three decade ban, strikes are now legal and employees have begun resorting to industrial action to press for higher wages and better benefits.

The chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Mahesh Lal Pradhan, said the country was threatened with "growing industrial unrest." He warned that if the administration of Premier Krishna Prasad Bhattarai did not take timely action to halt the unrest, more plants would be forced to close down and the government itself might be threatened. He said communist agitators were partly responsible for the labor unrest but he also blamed government inaction. The ruling Nepali Congress-dominated cabinet includes several communist members.

A Chamber of Commerce spokesman said that some 55 garment plants had shut down and that in the past week alone over 100 food processing firms in southeastern Nepal had closed their doors because of labor problems.

Strikes were strictly prohibited under the former party-less panchayat system and workers in this Hindu kingdom of 18 million inhabitants were controlled by government-run labor unions. Over 500 people lost their lives in the eight-week pro-democracy struggle which forced King Birendra to throw out the panchayat system and install an opposition-led administration.

Since then, workers organized in independent unions have been demanding salary hikes of as much as 100 per cent, housing allowances, health and education facilities and life insurance, industry sources said.

Mr. Pradhan warned that if the unrest continued, chaos could result. He criticized the government for raising the minimum wage for seasonal workers by over 50 per cent and said the hike had especially hurt the food industry in the lowlands. He said management could not fulfill labor demands that some 1,000 workers fired in a popular movement in 1980 be reinstated and added that industries were not in a position to pay the fired workers 10 years in back wages as they were demanding.

"Most of the industries have now closed down," Mr. Pradhan said. In other cases, he said, "Management has been demanding the government provide security to their industries and personal safety." But he said that so far, the Bhattarai government was "keeping quiet" in resolving the labor dispute.

A senior union leader, Harkha Bahadur Khapung, said workers were not paid enough and wanted housing and educational facilities for their families. He denied that workers were harming the interests of industrialists, "except for a few reactionaries."

Amid the spate of unrest, high hopes stemming from renewed trade and transit with neighboring giant India following a virtual 15 month blockade are fading. Mr. Bhattarai had said that following resolution of the dispute in June, prices on many key items would drop by as much as 35 per cent. But Mr. Pradhan noted that that was not the case, "except in some commodities and construction materials."

India's Gujral Arrives in Kathmandu 5 Aug

On Three-Day Visit

BK0508093590 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, arrived in Kathmandu today on a three-day visit to Nepal. Speaking to newsmen at the airport, Mr. Gujral made it clear that India will stick to the framework of the Simla agreement and sort out bilaterally any outstanding issue with Pakistan. He said the most disturbing issue at the moment is encouragement to terrorism and intervention in India's internal affairs by Islamabad.

Referring to the mediation offer by the conference of organization of Islamic countries, Mr. Gujral observed that India appreciates the concern of the friendly countries.

About Indo-Nepal relations, he said there is hardly any area in which the two countries do not cooperate with each other. Our Kathmandu correspondent, Harish Segon, reports that soon after his arrival, Mr. Gujral had a meeting with the Nepalese prime minister, Mr. K.P. Bhattarai, who also holds the foreign affairs and defense portfolios. Our correspondent understands that the two leaders discussed several new areas of cooperation to strengthen Indo-Nepal ties. Besides bilateral matters, regional and international issues also reportedly figured at the talks. Mr. Gujral is scheduled to call on King Birendra and the Nepali Congress leader, Mr. Ganesh Man Shrestha, this afternoon.

Offers Economic Aid

BK0508140690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] India has offered a comprehensive framework on economic cooperation to Nepal. Spelling it out in his address to the Nepal Chamber of Commerce in Kathmandu this evening, Mr. Gujral proposed that India will help Nepal in building physical and institutional infrastructure for industrialization and development of its human resources. Indian and Nepalese entrepreneurs should also collaborate in the private sector, Mr. Gujral suggested. India in turn could expect Nepal to meet some of its major concerns, which relate mainly to the protection of environment and harnessing of the waters of the common rivers.

Earlier, immediately after his arrival in Kathmandu, Mr. Gujral had a meeting with the Nepalese prime minister, Mr. K.P. Bhattarai. Mr. Gujral reassured Mr. Bhattarai of India's assistance and cooperation for the development of the shattered economy of the Himalayan kingdom. Besides bilateral matters, regional and international issues figured at the talks. Mr. Gujral is on a three-day visit to Nepal.

Meets Prime Minister, Leaders

BK0608043490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] India and Nepal have agreed to open three more entry points for third-country tourists coming from India to Nepal. This was decided during a meeting between the Nepalese prime minister, Mr. K. P. Bhattarai, and the visiting external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, in Kathmandu yesterday. The three new points being opened are located in the west of Nepal. During their 45-minute talks, the two leaders discussed a wide range of bilateral, regional and international issues. Mr. Gujral also handed over to Mr. Bhattarai a check for 10 lakh rupees toward a fund set up to help the families of those who suffered during the movement for restoration of democracy in Nepal.

The Nepalese home minister, Mr. Yog Prasad Upadhyaya, made a fervent appeal to Indian businessmen to set up industrial units in the Himalayan kingdom for the mutual benefit of the two countries. He was speaking at a dinner hosted by him in honor of Mr. Gujral last night. Mr. Upadhyaya announced that the Nepalese Government is introducing an open-door industrial policy to promote external investments. He invited Indian entrepreneurs and business (?office) to avail themselves of this opportunity.

Mr. Gujral assured Nepal of India's support to build a prosperous and democratic Nepal. AIR [All India Radio] Kathmandu correspondent, Harish Segon, reports that the two leaders expressed the determination of their governments to strengthen and expand India-Nepal cooperation covering a wide range of economic activities. Our correspondent adds that Mr. Gujral had meetings with various Nepalese leaders yesterday. During the talks, besides economic cooperation, Nepal also expressed willingness to share India's experience in the constitution making and in running and operating a

secular democracy. In this context, Mr. L. N. Sighvi and A.G. Noorani are visiting Kathmandu this week as experts on the constitution.

Pakistan

Spokesman on ICO, Upcoming Talks With India

BK0408163390 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] At a news briefing in Islamabad this evening, a Foreign Office spokesman said that Pakistan has expressed its happiness and satisfaction over a resolution on Kashmir adopted by the foreign ministers conference of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], which incorporates all of Pakistan's concerns. He said it is a matter of great satisfaction that this great gathering of Islamic countries has clearly supported Pakistan's position on Kashmir and expressed grave concern over the violation of human rights and atrocities against the people in occupied Kashmir. The resolution has called upon India and Pakistan to redeploy their troops to peacetime positions. It has welcomed the dialogue between the two countries to remove bilateral differences and to resolve the problem. The spokesman welcomed the emphasis laid on the UN resolutions on Kashmir at the conference, saying that it has clearly rejected Indian propaganda that since the signing of the Simla agreement, neither of the two countries accepts these resolutions.

The spokesman said the ICO resolution is an important declaration which would have a profound impact on world public opinion. The Pakistani government welcomes the ICO's willingness to send an effective delegation to India and Pakistan. He expressed the hope that India will allow this delegation to visit the occupied Jammu and Kashmir, so that it can assess the actual situation there.

The spokesman thanked Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal for his effective speech on the Kashmir issue and commended the role played by the Islamic delegations of Africa.

The spokesman said the credit for Pakistan's success goes to Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto who herself visited 14 Islamic countries on the occasion of the conference and fully projected the Kashmir issue and held discussions with Islamic leaders in this regard.

The spokesman further said that the foreign secretary will leave for New Delhi on Thursday [9 August] for the second round of secretary-level talks beginning on Friday. He added that Pakistan hopes that during the next round of talks, the basic issues—the cause of bilateral tension—will be discussed. He expressed the hope that India will show flexibility in its stand on the Kashmir problem.

About Afghanistan, the spokesman said: We are waiting for the full text of the agreement that has reportedly been reached between the foreign ministers of the United States and the Soviet Union in Siberia. About the voluntary repatriation of Afghan refugees, which began last Saturday under the aegis of the United Nations, the spokesman said this is a good beginning, because the refugees will be able to return to the region of peace and security inside Afghanistan, but we do not want to pressure the refugees to go back.

Petition Challenging Bhutto's Status Dismissed

BK0508075490 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] A division bench of the Lahore High Court dismissed an interim petition in Lahore yesterday, seeking to prevent the prime minister from continuing in office in light of the remarks allegedly made by her about the Islamic laws bill.

Leaders Meet To Evolve Consensus on Islamic Law

BK0508095590 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] The government-opposition talks with a view to evolving a consensus on the sharia [Islamic law] bill as passed by the Senate were held in Islamabad today. The speaker of the National Assembly, Malik Mairaj Khalid, presided. The next round of talks will be held on Wednesday to which the Senate chairman, Mr. Wasim Sajjad, and five other senators have also been invited. Those who attended today's meeting included federal ministers—Mr. Iftikhar Hussain Gilani, Khwaja Tariq Rahim, Chaudhary Aitzaz Ahsan, and Khan Bahadur Khan—as well as the minister of state, Malik Mushtaq Awan. From the opposition, Maulana Fazlur Rahman, Chaudhary Amir Hussain, retired General Abdul Majid Malik, Chaudhary Abdul Ghafoor, and Syed Sajjad Haider took part in the talks. Later in a statement, the speaker stressed the need for building a consensus on the way to enforce sharia, ensuring national unity.

Former Premier Junejo Demands Elections

BK0508091990 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] The former prime minister of Pakistan, Mohammad Khan Junejo, has demanded the dissolution of the National Assembly and holding of fresh elections within 90 days in the country. Speaking at a meet-the-press program in Rawalpindi, Mr. Junejo said the Bhutto government has failed to discharge its responsibilities in accordance with the mandate given by the people. He said the situation in Sindh is worsening day by day and the provincial administration has been ineffective in dealing with terrorists.

Ruling Party Spokesman Rejects Election Demand

BK0608031790 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] A Pakistan People's Party spokesman in the National Assembly has said that the present government has come to power with the support of the people and it will fulfill all its pledges. In a statement in Islamabad, he described the demand for dissolution of assemblies and holding new elections as ridiculous.

Senate Session Adjourned as Opposition Abstains

BK0508163990 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] The Senate, which began its 27th session in Islamabad this evening, was adjourned without any business due to lack of quorum. It will now meet on Tuesday.

Commenting on the absence of the opposition before the adjournment of the house, the federal minister for law and justice, Mr. Iftikhar Hussain Gilani, said if the intention to stay away was to deprive the newly elected members from Sindh from taking oath and sitting in the house, it was most unfortunate.

Later, talking to newsmen, the federal minister for parliamentary affairs, Khwaja Ahmad Tariq Rahim, said the government wanted a consensus on the Sharia bill. He said the National Assembly committee would get enough time to deliberate on the bill in depth. The minister for parliamentary affairs recalled that the Senate had taken five years to pass the Sharia bill.

No-Confidence Motion Against Bhutto 9 Aug

BK0508072990 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] In Pakistan, the combined opposition parties are to move a no-confidence motion against the Pakistan prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, in the next session of the National Assembly which begins on Thursday [9 August]. Announcing this at a press conference in Islamabad yesterday, the leader of the opposition parties, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, said that the deteriorating law-and-order situation in the country and rampant corruption has forced the opposition parties to make a bid to dislodge Ms. Bhutto.

Our Islamabad correspondent, Suresh Chopra, says that this is the second no-confidence motion to be moved against Ms. Bhutto. The first one was in November last year which survived by a narrow margin of 12 votes.

Two Ministers in Border Province Resign

BK0508170390 Hong Kong AFP in English 1646 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, Aug 5 (AFP)—Two ministers in the government of Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province (NWFP) bordering Afghanistan announced their resignations here Sunday. Health Minister Shazada Gustasap Khan and Transport Minister Yousaf Ayub Khan told a news conference they were quitting because the provincial government was "corrupt" and was neglecting the needs of their constituencies.

Their move followed an announcement by parliamentary opposition leader Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi that the opposition would move a no-confidence motion in the National Assembly to oust Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. Ms. Bhutto narrowly survived a similar challenge in November 1989.

Mr. Jatoi said the motion would be tabled during the session scheduled to open Wednesday in Islamabad but did not give the exact date. The 24-minister NWFP government, led by the ruling Pakistan People's Party (PPP), includes some dissident provincial assembly members of the opposition Islamic Democratic Alliance (IJI).

Mr. Gustasap Khan said he intended to rejoin the IJI ranks. The other minister, a grandson of the late former President Ayub Khan, was an independent assembly member before joining the NWFP government.

President Dissolves Government, Calls Elections

BK0608142590 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] The president has dissolved the National Assembly with immediate effect and the prime minister and the Cabinet cease to hold office forthwith. [Leader of the Combined Opposition Parties] Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi has been appointed as caretaker prime minister.

National elections will be held on 24th October this year.

The president, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, read out the dissolution order at a news conference a short while ago. It says, quote, the president, having considered the situation in the country and (?events) that have taken place and the circumstances and the [words indistinct] for the reasons mentioned in the order is of the opinion that the government of the federation cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and an appeal to the electorate is necessary.

A. The utility and efficacy of the National Assembly as a representative institution elected by the people under the constitution and its members is defeated by the internal dissension and factions, (?obstructions) and scandalous horse-trading for political gains and furtherance of personal interests, corrupt practices and inducements in contravention of the constitution and the law and by failure to discharge substantive legislative functions, other than the adoption of the national finance bill, and further, the National Assembly has lost the confidence of the people.

B. The Constitution invests with the federation and the provinces working within the spheres respectively assigned to them, with cleary delineated executive and legislative authority, and with a view to safeguarding the

structure of the federation, also contains special provisions of mandatory nature to ensure and protect the autonomy granted to the provinces by creating specific constitutional institutions consisting of federal and provincial representatives. But the government of the federation has willfully undermined and impaired the working of the constitutional arrangements and reserved the authority of the provinces and of such institutions resulting in discord, confrontation, and deadlock, that might be affecting the integrity, solidarity and well-being of Pakistan, inter alia:

1. The Council of Common Interests under Article 153, which is responsible only to parliament, has not been allowed to discharge its constitutional functions and exercise its powers despite persistent demands of the provinces, and parliament has also not been allowed to function in this regard as required by Articles 153 and 154 and in relation to Articles 155 and 161.

2. The National Finance commission under Article 160 has never been called to meet and allowed to function, thus blocking mandatory constitutional processes in the matter of allocation of shares and revenues to the provinces despite their persistent demands.

3. Constitutional powers and functions of the provinces have been deliberately frustrated by the [word indistinct] and executive authority of the federation to the provinces in violation of Article 97, and by the general manner of implementation of the people's program.

4. The Senate which is representative of the federating units under Article 59 and is an integral part of parliament has been ridiculed and its constitutional role has been eroded.

Corruption and nepotism in the federal government—its functionaries and authorities, agencies, statutory and other corporations, including banks working under its supervision and control, and the holders of representative offices—had reached such proportions that the orderly functioning of the government in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, including the requirements of the post described therein and the law, does no longer carry public faith and credibility, and despite being subject to wide public condemnation, the government has failed to take appropriate action in this regard.

C. The federal government has failed in its duty under Article 148 (3) of the Constitution to protect the Province of Sindh against internal disturbances and to ensure that the government of that province has carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution despite the heavy loss of life and property, the rule of terror in urban and rural areas, riots, arson, dacoity [robbery], kidnapping for ransom, politics of violence among citizens, and widely [word indistinct] failure of the provincial government and its law enforcing agencies [words indistinct] failed to act under under appropriate provisions of the Constitution. The government of the federation has violated the provisions of the Constitution and the law in that:

1. The supreme judiciary has been publicly ridiculed and its integrity attacked and attempts made to impair its independence;

2. Authority, resources, and agencies of the government of the federation, including statutory corporations, authorities, and banks have been misused for political ends and purposes, and for personal gain;

3. The civil services of Pakistan have been undermined by disregarding the provisions of Article 240 and 242;

4. The powers of Article 45 have been exercised by the government without prior approval of the president.

Now, therefore, I, Ghulam Ishaq Khan, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, in exercise of the powers conferred on me by clause 2-B of Article 58 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, dissolve the National Assembly with immediate effect and the prime minister and the Cabinet cease to hold office forthwith, unquote.

The president is addressing the nation over Radio Pakistan and television network tonight.

National Press Trust Chairman Relieved of Duties

BK0708022890 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] According to an official announcement issued in Islamabad last night, Wajed Shamsul Hassan has been removed from his post as chairman of National Press Trust with immediate effect.

Senate Session Adjourned Until 15 August

BK0708104090 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1000 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Senate Chairman Wasim Sajjad has adjourned the Senate session until 15 August. Thus the Senate session scheduled to be held at 1730 this evening will not be held.

President Declares State of Emergency 6 Aug

BK0608182090 Islamabad Overseas Service in Urdu 1810 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] A report just received says that the president has promulgated a state of emergency in the country.

Proclamation Explains

BK0708045590 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The president has proclaimed a state of emergency in the country. The proclamation issued last night in Islamabad says a grave emergency exists due to the security of the country being threatened by external aggression and by internal disturbances that are beyond the power of provincial governments to control. The proclamation adds that the president in exercising the power conferred by Clause 1 of Article 232 of the Constitution has proclaimed an emergency.

Army Takes Control of Communication Installations

BK0708005690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0035 GMT 7 Jul 90

[Text] The Pakistan President, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, has declared a state of emergency in the country. He promulgated an order to this effect last night. Mr. Ishaq Khan also dissolved all the four provincial assemblies and ordered the dismissal of their chief ministers. Shortly after the dismissal of Ms. Benazir Bhutto's government, the army took control of important installations, including the National Television station, Radio Pakistan, and the headquarters of the telecommunication department.

There are reports that some members of the administration have been arrested.

President Khan Makes New Political Appointments

Jatoi 'Caretaker' Prime Minister

BK0608143090 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi was sworn in as the caretaker prime minister of Pakistan at the President House this afternoon. President Ghulam Ishaq Khan administered the oath. Four ministers of the caretaker cabinet also took the oath. They are: Ghulam Mustafa Khar, Elahi Bux Soomro, Rafi Raza, and Sartaj Aziz. The ceremony was attended by Senate Chairman Wasim Sajjad, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, chiefs of the three armed services, and other high officials.

Yaqub Khan in New Cabinet

BK0708010690 Islamabad Overseas Service in Urdu 1800 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi was sworn in as the caretaker prime minister of Pakistan at the President House in Islamabad this afternoon. [passage omitted]

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and Malik Naim have been included in the federal cabinet. They will take their oath of office tomorrow.

Further on Cabinet Members

BK0708095490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] In Pakistan, the newly-appointed caretaker prime minister, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, has begun functioning at the prime minister's office in parliament. He is being assisted by a six-member cabinet whose portfolios are yet to be announced. They are: Mr. Ghulam Musatafa Khar, Mr. Rafi Raza, Mr. Elahi [Bux] Soomro, Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Mr. Malik Naim, and Mr. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan. Meanwhile, the caretaker chief ministers in the four provinces, where the assemblies had been dissolved, have also begun functioning.

Our Islamabad correspondent, Suresh Chopra, reports that Islamabad presents a calm look and life is going on normally. The army troops, which surrounded several important government buildings, appear to have been withdrawn. The report says that the city is rife with rumors that the former prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, has been placed under house arrest and her husband has been detained. But no confirmation of this is available, and reports say that Ms. Bhutto is at present holding a meeting with her party leaders. She is scheduled to chair a meeting of Pakistan People's [Party] parliamentary group in parliament house tomorrow.

Reportage on Political Changes in Provinces

New Governors Appointed

BK0608161990 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Mian Mohammad Azhar has been appointed as the governor of Punjab and Mr. Mahmud Harun as the governor of Sindh.

Provincial Assemblies Dissolved

BK0708015890 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0100 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Punjab Governor Mian Mohammad Azhar took the oath of office in Lahore last night. The Lahore High Court chief justice, Justice Mohammad Rafiq Tarar, administered the oath. Sindh Governor Mahmud A. Harun took the oath of office in Karachi last night. The Sindh High Court judge, Justice Syedduzzaman Siddiqi, administered the oath.

The Punjab, Sindh, North-West Frontier Province [NWFP], and Balochistan assemblies have been dissolved. Punjab Governor Mian Mohammad Azhar promulgated an order in Lahore last night dissolving the provincial assembly on the advice of the chief minister.

Sindh Governor Mahmud A. Harun announced the dissolution of Sindh assembly in Karachi last night. He also administered the oath of office to the chief minister, Jam Sadiq Ali Khan. A two-member provincial cabinet was also sworn-in on the occasion. The names of the ministers are: Haji Shafi Jamot and Mir Nawaz Khan Marwat.

At a news conference in Peshawar yesterday evening, the NWFP governor, Amir Gulistan Janjua, announced the dissolution of the provincial assembly. Another announcement in Peshawar said that Mir Afzal Khan has been appointed the caretaker chief minister of NWFP.

On the advice of the provincial chief minister, Balochistan Governor Retired General Mohammad Musa announced the dissolution of the Balochistan assembly in Quetta last night. According to an announcement, Mir Humayun Khan Marri has been appointed the caretaker chief minister of the province.

Elections 'Priority' of Government

BK0708092590 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Mr. Mir Afzal Khan took oath of office of caretaker chief minister of NWFP [North-West Frontier Province] in Peshawar this morning. The provincial governor, Mr. Amir Gulistan Janzua, administered the oath. Later, four ministers, namely Nawabzada Mohsin Ali Khan, Mr. Fateh Mohammad Khan, Mr. Iftikhar Mohmand, and Sahabzada Mohiyuddin took the oath of office. The governor administered the oath to them

Talking briefly to the newsmen on the occasion, Mr. Mir Afzal Khan said the priority of the caretaker government would be holding fair and impartial elections. Replying to a question, he said his cabinet would be expanded, but not to the extent it becomes a burden on the exchequer.

In Quetta, Mir Humayun Khan Marri took oath of office as caretaker chief minister of Balochistan today. The provincial governor, retired General Mohammad Musa, administered the oath. Later, in a brief chat with the newsmen, the caretaker chief minister said it would be the endeavor of his government to hold free and fair elections, maintain law and order, and serve the people without discrimination.

Punjab Caretaker Minister Appointed

BK0708103690 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1000 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Ghulam Haider Wyne was sworn in as the caretaker chief minister of Punjab in Lahore this afternoon. Provincial Governor Mian Mohammad Azhar administered the oath.

Bhutto, Party Respond To Dismissal, Dissolution

Legal Challenge Planned

BK0608144890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] The Pakistan President, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, has dissolved the National Assembly; dismissed the prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto; and ordered fresh elections.

According to agency reports, Mr. Ishaq Khan set October 24th as a new date for fresh elections and appointed Mr. Mustafa Jatoi as the interim prime minister. The decision of the president brings an abrupt end to the prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto's, 20-month old government. The announcement caught members of Ms. Bhutto's government by surprise. The minister for parliamentary affairs, Mr. Tariq Rahim, described the decision as high-handed, unconstitutional, and illegal. He said his party will challenge the president's decision in court.

Bhutto Terms Move 'Unconstitutional'

BK0608164890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1637 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 6 (AFP)—Deposed Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Monday called the dissolution of the National Assembly and the dismissal of her government "illegal and unconstitutional."

President Ghulam Ishaq Khan was "forced" to dissolve the assembly, she told a press conference at the prime minister's house two hours after the dramatic decision was announced by the head of state.

Asked who had compelled him, Ms. Bhutto said, "I leave it to your imagination."

"You can guess who are those forces," she said. She said she did not absolve the president of responsibility in the affair and called his move "illegal and unconstitutional." Looking composed, the 37-year-old Ms. Bhutto called upon members of her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) to remain calm "no matter how great is the provocation."

She added, "we want the political process to continue." She said the leaders of the PPP would meet in a few days to discuss the party's course of action. She said it was up to the party to decide whether or not to challenge the dissolution of Parliament in the courts.

Ms. Bhutto said the president's move was "arbitrary and with ulterior motives." She said the reasons given by the president for the dismissal of her government, that her administration had been corrupt and plagued by nepotism, were "vague and unsubstantiated."

"It is really deplorable that a national government has been sacked at a time when agitation is going on in Kashmir and when there is need to muster international support to the cause of Kashmiris," she said. She pointed out that the caretaker prime minister, Ghulam Mustaf Jatoi, had been rejected in the 1988 general elections. She said such a man could not inspire trust and confidence among the people at a time "when Indian troops are on our borders."

Said Not Officially Informed

BK0708005090 Hong Kong AFP in English 2109 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 6 (AFP)—Ousted Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was not officially informed of her dismissal and had to telephone the president herself to find out what happened, her spokesman said Monday.

"Nobody had the courtesy to inform her," Kamran Shafi said.

"New elections," was President Ghulam Ishaq Khan's brief reply to Ms. Bhutto's query about the upheaval in the country, Mr. Shafi said. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, dozens of armed soldiers in battle gear stood guard outside Ms. Bhutto's official residence late in the night Monday. Sources said they were not obstructing visitors.

Soldiers were also guarding vital installations in Rawalpindi and Islamabad, including radio and television stations, but the situation remained normal. People in some places celebrated her ouster by shooting off firecrackers and firing guns into the air.

Ms. Bhutto was to have left for Karachi on Monday, but her press secretary said she put off her departure until Tuesday.

Party To Meet, Decide on Action

BK0708032290 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Shortly after the dismissal of Ms. Benazir Bhutto's government yesterday evening, the Pakistan Army took control of the important installations in Islamabad, including the National Television station, Radio Pakistan, and the headquarters of the telecom department. The Army chief, General Mirza Aslam Beg, is reported to have said that the military moves aim to ensure an orderly transition of the government. [passage omitted]

Our Islamabad correspondent, Suresh Chopra, reports that this sudden turn of events in Pakistan have taken the entire country, including the diplomatic corps, by complete surprise. A meeting of the Central Executive Committee of Ms. Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party has been called for today to decide the future course of action. Our correspondent adds that heavy armed guards are seen around Ms. Bhutto's residence from late last night.

Several opposition parties in Pakistan have welcomed Ms. Bhutto's dismissal.

Commentary, Editorials View Assembly Dissolution

Decision Defended

BK0708011490 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 1700 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Shakil Ahmad commentary entitled: "Dissolution of National Assembly"]

[Text] Under a presidential order issued this afternoon, the president, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, has dissolved the National Assembly in exercise of the powers conferred on him by Article 58 (2) of the Constitution. As a consequence of this order, the prime minister and the Federal Cabinet shall cease to hold office with immediate effect.

Addressing a press conference this afternoon, the president said that after careful consideration of the matter, he had reached the conclusion that the federal government had failed to discharge its duties under the Constitution. The National Assembly had failed to perform its functions due to (?group) factors and polarization. The members of the assembly had lost the confidence of the electorate. The Senate, which is a constitutional body and an integral part of the democratic system of the country, had been ridiculed. Federal corporations, banks, and other institutions have been subverted to serve personal ends of the elected government in power. As a result, these organizations and institutions had ceased to function for purposes for which they had been created. Unparalled acts of horse-trading and corruption were indulged in.

Despite public [word indistinct] and abhorrence, no steps were taken by the federal government to arrest the situation. The president further observed that the Council of Common Interests is a constitutional body meant to resolve problems between the federation and the provinces. Despite the demands persistently made by the provinces, the federal government refused to convene a meeting of the council. Similarly, the federal government was unwilling to call a meeting of the National Finance Commission, which is required under the Constitution to determine allocation of resources between the federation and the provinces. Under the Constitution, autonomy of the provinces is a sacred trust with the federation.

Despite the clear demarcation of the federal and provincial jurisdictions, the federal government through the People's Works Program [Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party's social welfare program] encroached upon areas where [words indistinct] of the federal government, but those of the provinces. Apart from the destructions caused to the federal corporations and banks, the federal government also crippled the civil service of Pakistan. The powers under the Constitution exercisable by the president were exercised by the prime minister without reference to the president. Under Article 45 of the Constitution, the president was empowered to grant pardons and remove or suspend any sentence passed by any court, tribunal, or other authority.

Under the Constitution, the federal government is responsible for taking measures against any provincial government which fails to discharge its functions in relation to the maintenance of law and order and protection of the lives and property of its citizens. Despite the failure of the government of Sindh to discharge its due functions, action required under the constitution was (?not taken). The policy of consultation with two other provincial governments was continuing which threatened the authority of the federation and erosion of the Constitution. [sentence as heard] In these circumstances, the president was of the view that an appeal to the electorate was necessary. He has therefore decided that fresh elections to the National Assembly be held on October 24th. The president has also decided to appoint Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi as a caretaker prime minister. Mr. Jatoi was sworn in this evening at the Aiwan-i-Sadr [President House].

The law and order problem and the ethnic strife in Sindh continued to worry all sections of the Pakistani society. The Army cannot remain deployed on an indefinite basis in Sindh to the detriment of their prime responsibility of defending the country's frontiers. The need for a political dialogue between the People's Party and the MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement] was urged by responsible sections, but was ignored. The country can ill afford the continuance of civil commotion and strife in Karachi and Hyderabad and dacoities [robberies] and kidnappings in the interior of Sindh. It is up to the electorate to judge the performance of the People's Party government. They will now have to choose the next government. For the sake of the country's progress and well-being, it is expected that they will exercise correct choice and elect their representatives on October 24th. It would be incumbent upon the caretaker government to ensure that the polls are held in a fair and impartial atmosphere so that the democratic process is continued without interruption.

'Dangerous Consequences' Viewed

BK0708121490 Lahore THE NATION in English 7 Aug 90 p 6

[Editorial: "Back to Square One"]

[Text] As expected President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has dissolved the National Assembly, removed Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and her cabinet from office and appointed Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi as the caretaker Prime Minister. He has cited a number of instances of either misuse of power or failure to mend matters by the PPP government, as his reason for its removal. Among those are the situation in Sindh, interference in provincial matters, demoralisation of the civil services, denial of provincials rights, misuse of banks, etc. Notwithstanding the legitimacy of these grounds, the action taken by the President is fraught with dangerous consequences. The move is reminiscent of Ziaul Haq's sacking of Junejo government in 1988. It will thus be a second shock to the tender plant of democracy in our country within the span of a couple of years. That the inbuilt remedy to cure mismanagement of affairs in a Parliamentary form of government, such as an electoral verdict at the end of a government's term of office, was not used, is a matter of regret.

Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan need not be reminded of the Supreme Court judgment against Ziaul Haq's dismissal of the National Assembly. The removal of incumbent governments on charges of corruption and incompetence will have credibility only if the 'caretakers' are seen as more honest and competent than their predecessors and have the ability to acquit themselves with dignity in the task of running the interim administration. Furthermore, in the backdrop of Opposition's present disarray, has the possibility of the PPP re-emerging as the single largest party in the new elections been fully taken into account? President Ghulam Ishaq Khan is not a person known for hasty decisions or reckless action; he must have weighed the pros and cons of dismissing a popularly elected government and dissolving the National Assembly. But given the chequered history of democracy in this country where military dictators have been at the helm of affairs for more than half of its independent existence and where democratic institutions had hardly a chance to take roots, it could set in motion a destabilising process fatal for the future of democracy. In this context the holding of elections on October 24, poses a very serious challenge to the President. He will have to steer clear of the pitfalls of partisanship or bias to which he may have exposed himself in the choice of his caretaker Prime Minister. He will now be called upon to demonstrate his complete impartiality in the tussle of the political parties in the months to come.

Reportage on Reaction to Iraqi Invasion of Kuwait

Yaqub Khan Condemns Action

BK0508153790 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said Pakistan deeply regrets the use of force by Iraq against Kuwait in violation of the objectives and principles of the United Nations and Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] charters. Giving a statement on the Iraq-Kuwait situation at the ICO foreign ministers conference in Cairo, he called for an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait. He said only in this manner will the process of negotiations be restored between the two countries to resolve their differences. He said Pakistan received with shock and distress the news about the Iraqi military intervention of a fellow Islamic country. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said the Iraqi action has a direct bearing on the recognized norms of inter-state relations.

The foreign minister said Pakistan supports the position that the Arab League has adopted on the situation. He said Pakistan opposes military intervention against sovereign and independent states and it stands for the respect of recognized international borders. He said that Pakistan firmly believes that international differences and disputes must always be solved through peaceful negotiations.

Pakistanis Said Treated Well

BK0608091390 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has expressed satisfaction over the outcome of the ICO [Islamic Conference Organization] foreign ministers conference in Cairo. He was talking to newsmen on his return to Islamabad today after attending the conference. He said the passage of resolution on Kashmir has vindicated Pakistan's principled stand.

The foreign secretary, who was also present on the occasion, told a questioner that the Iraqi government had assured Pakistan that Pakistanis now in Kuwait in

the custody of the Iraqi authorities are being treated well and their security has been ensured.

Spokesman Hopes for Withdrawal

BK0408154790 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] Pakistan has expressed the hope that Iraq will withdraw its troops from Kuwait unconditionally, completely, and as fast as possible, as per its announcement. A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that as a friend of the Arabian countries, Pakistan has always pursued the policy that disputes among Arabs are the internal affairs of the Arab world.

About the welfare of the Pakistanis living in Kuwait, the spokesman said that two Pakistani nationals were slightly wounded. They are being treated at a hospital and are now out of danger. Two groups of Pakistani technicians, numbering 21 in all, have been arrested by Iraqi forces.

The spokesman disclosed that the Iraqi ambassador in Islamabad was summoned to the Foreign Office last night and was told that Pakistan understands that the safety and security of these Pakistanis is the responsibility of Iraq. The spokesman added that the government will do everything possible to ensure the welfare and safety of all Pakistanis working in Kuwait, whether they are there on official business or on their own.

Oil Exports Halted; Shortage Seen

BK0408123290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1133 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] Karachi, Aug 4 (AFP)—Pakistan's oil supply has been severely disrupted by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, which provides almost 70 per cent of the country's oil imports, industry sources said Saturday. Pakistan produces only 58,000 barrels per day (bpd) and imports another 80,000 bpd at an annual cost of one billion dollars.

Of these imports, 55,000 bpd of oil and petroleum products are bought from Kuwait at an estimated annual cost of 700 million dollars. The main imports from Kuwait are high speed diesel and supreme kerosene and lubricants, on which the two sides recently struck a deal.

Sources said Iran was the only country apart from Kuwait with a refinery producing oil products to the specifications required by Pakistan. Since the Iranian refineries are now under repair, Pakistan could face a critical shortage of petrol and high speed diesel if supplies from Kuwait are not resumed in the near future, the sources said.

Reports reaching here said Kuwaiti exports of oil had been totally stopped since the Iraqi occupation of that country. The Pakistan Petroleum Ministry is studying alternatives to boost oil supplies from other sources if the Kuwaiti crisis persists, industry sources said.

A representative of the Kuwait Petroleum Corp. (KPC) said here Saturday that two oil tankers, the Al-Sabiha and the Al-Kuwaitiah, carrying about 70,000 tonnes of diesel and kerosene left for Karachi just before Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait Friday. He said the Iraqi occupation forces had sealed off all Kuwaiti crude and oil products export facilities.

Pakistan Government sources said the country would have to depend on Saudi Arabia, Abu Dhabi or Singapore for alternative supplies if the situation in Kuwait did not improve rapidly.

Kuwaiti Consulate Denounces 'Puppet'

BK0508141690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1305 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Karachi, Aug 5 (AFP)—The Kuwaiti Consulate General here on Sunday denounced the government that Iraqi forces set up in Kuwait.

"It is one of the unacceptable outcomes of the vicious aggression against Kuwait by the Iraqi Government," a consulate statement said.

Expressing allegience to the ousted emir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the statement warned Pakistani people against dealing with "any person or party affiliated with the puppet government."

Mujahidin Urge Kuwaiti Resistance

BK0508154690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1511 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 5 (AFP)—The mujahidin resistance Afghan Interim Government (AIG) on Sunday condemned Iraq's invasion of Kuwait as a violation of human and Islamic principles and called on Kuwaitis to resist.

The prime minister of the Pakistan-based rebel government, Abdul Rasul Sayyaf, demanded in a statement the "immediate and unconditional withdrawal" of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and warned Baghdad against any attempt to expand its "military intervention."

He also called on Kuwaitis "never to submit to the puppet regime installed by Iraqi Ba'thist invaders." "Despite our reservations about certain political instances of Kuwait, we strongly condemn Iraq's invasion which is a flagrant violation of all human and Islamic principles," he said.

Mr. Sayyaf, who heads the pro-Saudi Ittihad-e Eslami faction, said no Moslem would tolerate "further advance" of Iraqi forces, particularly into Saudi Arabian territory.

Saudi Arabia, along with the United States, has given financial support to the mujahidin in their struggle to topple the Soviet-backed Afghan Government.

Kabul reacted cautiously Saturday to the Iraqi operation in Kuwait, expressing concern over "developments leading to factionalism and dissension" among Arab and Moslem

countries. It did not refer directly to the invasion on Thursday, nor did it condemn Baghdad, a Kabul ally.

Iraq has backed Kabul's attempt to re-enter the Organisation of Islamic Conference, and a Foreign Ministry spokesman in Kabul said efforts were under way to reopen Iraq's embassy in the Afghan capital.

Editorial Terms Action 'Brutal'

BK0408144190 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 4 Aug 90 p 4

[Editorial: "A master-stroke"]

[Text] After what appears clearly in hindsight as a concerted campaign launched by the Western regimes and media organs to befool the Arab world in particular in believing that Saddam's military muscle was poised to deal a deadly blow to the Zionist entity, the Iraqi strongman has done just the opposite. He has gorged the tiny, defenceless, Muslim, neighbouring state of Kuwait. The indelible stigma which the despot at Baghdad has in the process earned for himself and by implication also for the hapless citizens of Iraq over whom he has continued to lord most ruthlessly for over a decade now, relates to the timing of his brutal pounce on a fellow Muslim society. The Iraqi invasion occurred on precisely the day which according to Islamic belief marks many an auspicious, momentous and venerated event in the history of mankind—indeed of the universe—with one phenomenally dishonourable exception. It was on the tenth day of the Haram (inviolable) month of Muharram that the then usurper of Islamic authority had in the year 61 A.H. done to death the grandson of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) [peace be upon him] at a place in the present-day state of Iraq. Thus, even as Muslims in all parts of the world paid homage last Thursday to the Great Sacrifice on the occasion of Ashura (the tenth day) of Muharram-ul-Harain, the Iraqi dictator, whose name is a slur on the unimpeachable image of Hazrat Imam Hussain, [Grandson of prophet Mohammad] decided to violate the sanctity of the Islamic month and the day.

Irrespective of whatever ignominy the Iraqi strongman may already have accumulated for himself and for his subjugated people among the Muslims at large, and irrespective also of whatever short-term as also larger objectives which he may have hoped to achieve through the adventure against Kuwait, an entire sheaf of circumstantial evidence points to the immediate benefit reaped through Mr Saddam's act by the powers and interests inimical to the Muslims and Islam. The Iraqi blitzkrieg took the wind out of the sails of the OIC (Organisation of Islamic Conference) Foreign Ministers' meeting in progress at Cairo which had been convened after an inordinate delay caused by some of the member states' willingness to be used by extraneous powers as impediments to Muslim Ummah's [Community] taking a joint position on burning issues of the day. The Indian Foreign Minister must have had reason to feel confident as he boasted just a day before the OIC meeting's opening that a number of member states had assured New Delhi that the question of Jammu and Kashmir will not come up at the Cairo parleys. But come up it did, and with a vengeance. The Saudi Foreign Minister, in his capacity as the outgoing Chairman of the meeting, set the tone by demanding that the conference extend its clear support to the United Nations Resolutions which grant the Kashmiris the right to determine through a plebiscite whether they wanted their territory to form part of Pakistan or India.

India was quick in showing its displeasure at the unequivocal position taken on the issue by Saudi Arabia. Nor could the development have been viewed with equanimity by the United States which has been prevailing upon Pakistan to forget about the UN Resolution and instead to work out a mutually-acceptable solution with India. Such staunch supporters of the Indian position on Kashmir as Iraq, too, must have been alarmed at Saudi Arabia's taking the principled stand on the question. Saudi Arabia has also in the recent past taken a number of steps which give it a greater manoeuvrability in international conduct through opening up to the Soviet Union and China than it could have earlier managed under the crippling American tutelage. The two superpowers could also have been concerned about the OIC's throwing a spanner in the works of their mutual consensus on Afghanistan being then hammered out by Mr Baker and Mr Shevardnadze in Siberia. Besides, there was no guarantee that the intransigence of the Zionist entity, fully backed by Washington, to proceed with the supposed peace process on the Palestine question, would not have led to the OIC's taking a tougher position against Israel.

On another level, Mr. Saddam's adventure has not only led to the realisation of the long-cherished American dream of staging an armed comeback in the Gulf region, it has also bailed out the United States of a difficult economic situation. Oil prices have skyrocketed in a panicky world market, as also has the value of the dollar against the two major challengers in the Japanese yen and the German mark. The United States has made a mockery of international law through playing the lead role in having the UN Security Council pass a condemnatory Resolution high on verbiage but without the means to enforce Iraqi withdrawal. On the contrary, President Bush has coaxed other Western leaders as well to freeze the substantial Kuwaiti assets in their respective countries which may lead ultimately to their effective usurpation. But the question which Iraq's other Arab neighbours, principally Saudi Arabia, can overlook only at great peril to their integrity and sovereignty in the given situation is how to rein in Saddam before it is too late. As for Pakistan, the pathetic "deep distress" expressed rather belatedly and without naming the aggressor, reflects a total indifference not only towards the underlying dynamics of the Gulf situation but also towards the possibility that Iraqi action may have been meant to serve as, besides other things, a smokescreen for India's aggressive designs against this country. Of paramount importance in this context is the fact that the

potential support of Iran for Pakistan could have been expected to be neutralised through the activation of the Gulf theatre at this juncture.

Editorial Condemns 'Adventure'

BK0408133090 Lahore THE NATION in English 4 Aug 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Iraq's Blatant Aggression"]

[Text] Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, notwithstanding their dispute and tension thereof, cannot be condoned by any means. It is an unprovoked aggression without any legal, political or moral justification and has set a dangerous precedent in the region. Ironically, the victim of aggression is not only a small neighbour but also an Arab nation. The Baathist regime in Baghdad seems to have been driven to the reckless adventure without rhyme or reason and one is impelled to believe that its formidable military machine has been geared up to pursue expansionist designs. "You have been stealing our oil," was the charged levelled against Kuwait and millions of dollars were demanded as compensation. But before the issue could be sorted out through negotiations or mediation the warlords in Baghdad decided to punish the Kuwaitis and the alibi for armed intervention was even more ridiculous than the pretence of talks in Jeddah a day earlier. "We are here by invitation" said Baghdad after its tanks had rolled into Kuwaiti territory and the capital city was overrun.

By all accounts Iraq does not seem to have any intention of vacating its aggression, despite worldwide condemnation. The Emir of Kuwait has fled to Saudi Arabia, the National Assembly has been dissolved and the Iraqi forces of occupation are not only running the administration but also set about creating the "puppet government" which could vouch for their "presence by invitation". President Saddam Husayn's critics have often called him a "power-hungry despot" said to have imposed on his own people an oppressive system of governance. Nevertheless, he was given a pat on his back by the Western powers when he was seen as a counterweight to Iran's Islamic Revolution and even the Arab countries did not visualise the eventuality of his turning his guns against them. While the OIC [Organization of Islamic Conference] foreign ministers, currently in session in Cairo, seem to have been overtaken by the dramatic development, the Arab League's response has been surprisingly low-key. It is, however, self-evident that Saddam Husayn's Kuwait adventure is not an isolated incident of settling a dispute by force; the bully of Baghdad seems to have a grand design of policing the entire region and it is only the beginning of the realisation of this ambition. It is indeed tragic how an Arab country has misused its clout and lost sight of its priorities in arrogance of power. Saddam Husayn has been resorting to a lot of anti-Zionist rhetoric threatening to wipe out Israel with chemical weapons, but when it came to the crunch he inflicted an irreparable damage to Arab unity. And if blatant blackmail by their "big brother" is the alternative, the small Arab nations might as well be induced to accept Israeli hegemony.

Sri Lanka

Parties Condemn LTTE's Ethnic Attacks

EPDP Views 'Fascist Designs'

BK0208112590 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0855 GMT 2 Aug 90

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 2 August (LANKAPUVATH)—The Eelam People's Democratic Party [EPDP] yesterday condemned LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] attacks on Muslims and said that the Tigers are using slogans like "Tamil Eelam" only to cover up their fascist designs.

"The LTTE is attempting to ride on the backs of the people to establish a fascist hegemony", the EPDP statement signed by its Secretary General Douglas Devananda said.

The statement said that there was no existence without arms for the LTTE, which could not face a democratic situation free of clashes, unrest, and war. It said that until the LTTE is eliminated, the provocations, attacks, and creations of conditions promoting communal conflicts can never be prevented.

ENDLF Cites Sinhala 'Massacres'

BK0208115690 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 2 Aug 90

[Text] The Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front [ENDLF] has condemned the fascist LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] for killing Sinhala civilians, including women and children. This heinous crime of the retreating LTTE has brought shame not only on the Tamil people but on the entire militants. In a press release issued in this connection, the ENDLF also condemns the government's decision to recruit 50,000 additional home guards following these massacres. It said, we reiterate that the political rights of the Tamil people cannot be achieved by slaying innocent Sinhala civilians. It was noting that the carnage of Sinhala people from Anuradhapura killings in the last week's massacre by the fascist LTTE have brought great inconvenience and hardship to the Tamil people than the conflicts between the armed forces and any militant movements abroad. [sentence as heard]

Officers Tour Trincomalee, Ensure People's Safety

BK0208101190 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0858 GMT 2 Aug 90

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 2 August (LANKAPUVATH)—LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] will never be allowed

to recapture the Trincomalee District, Brigadier Lucky Wijeratne, who is commanding operations in Trincomalee assured Sinhala residents in Kantalai, Kallar, Mawalaru, Serunuwara, Alioluwa and Seruwila during an inspection tour of the settlements yesterday.

Brigadier Wijeratne, who was accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Gerry Alwis, Commander 05th Light Infantry Regiment; Chandra Perera, S.P. [superintendent of police] Trincomalee; and Richard Wijesekera, inspected Army camps and police stations in the area and looked into the grievances of the Sinhala settlers and their homeguards.

At most of the settlements, villagers stressed their water problem saying that the scarcity of water was a bigger problem than the Tigers, because it would damage their entire paddy crop.

At Kallar, Brigadier Wijeratne promised to get the admission cards of a group of students sitting the GCEC [Greater Colombo Economic Commission] advanced level examination delivered to them soon, assign a government doctor to the village, ensure the payment of pension arrears and the overdue salaries of homeguards in the area.

At Serunuwara, settlers complained that they had not seen their AGA [Assistant Government Agent] or the grama sevaka niladhari [village official] for several months. The settlers also asked for more guns and ammunition promising never to leave their village in the face of LTTE threats again.

At the Seruwila Raja Maha Vihare [Buddhist temple] the viharadhipati [priest], Venerable Seruwila Saranakitti Nayake Thera chanted seth pirith [religious hymns] and invoked the blessings of the Triple Gem [Buddhist Trinity] on the security forces engaged in protecting the eastern province agains LTTE terrorists.

Brigadier Wijeratne later inspected the Seruwila hospital accompanied by Venerable Saranakitti Thero. On his way back, he met a group of about 50 Muslims from Thoppur at Seruwila junction, who complained of harassment from the remaining LTTE terrorists. Brigadier Wijeratne promised to ensure their safety too by dealing with the balance LTTE terrorists. The Muslims then returned to the village promising to join the homeguard service.

Rebels Gun Down Some 100 Muslims in Two Mosques

Military Blames LTTE

BK0408050890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0502 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] Colombo, Aug 4 (AFP)—Tamil separatist guerrillas gunned down about 100 Muslims gathered for prayers in two mosques in eastern Sri Lanka late Friday, military officials said here Saturday. They said about 30 armed guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), disguised as Muslims, entered the mosques in the village of Kathankudy in Batticaloa District and sprayed bullets at the worshippers, gathered for weekly prayers.

They said initial reports said 90 people were killed and 73 wounded in the attacks on the Meera and Hussenia mosques. But a spokesman for the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress, which is based in the east, said that according to the latest count 140 people were killed and 125 wounded in the attack.

The LTTE attacked Muslims at a mosque in the neighboring village of Sammanthurai twice in recent weeks, killing dozens of people. The Muslim Congress spokesman, Waffa Farook, said the guerrillas had gone to the village wearing Army uniforms and asked the people to gather at the two mosques before opening fire on the congregation. He said the injured had been admitted to Batticaloa and Ampara hospitals and some the victims died of their injuries there.

Military officials said the rebels' action appeared to be in line with orders by the LTTE leadership to wipe out all those opposed to the group in the east. Quoting intelligence reports, they said the LTTE area leaders had been changed and a new group had taken over to implement the orders of the high command. Relations between Tamils and Muslims, who are also Tamil-speaking but are considered a separate ethnic group, in the east had soured following a series of communal clashes in recent years.

Parties Condemn 3 Aug Killings

BK0508091390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] In the ongoing fighting in Sri Lanka, about 40 LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] militants were reported killed when the security forces repulsed a major attack on the besieged Jaffna Fort yesterday. A military spokesman said in Colombo that about 300 Tamil militants attacked the fort in Jaffna City with mortars, rockets, and machine guns. They said the government forces also repulsed a series of sporadic attacks of militants on a number of Army and naval detachments in the northern parts of the country since yesterday. In other incidents reported from Northeastern Province, three villagers and one soldier were killed.

Our Colombo correspondent reports that a large number of opposition parties in Sri Lanka have condemned the mass killing of innocent people in Kattankudi Village on Friday [3 August]. In a joint statement issued in Colombo, the political parties have attributed the escalation of LTTE violence to government's total failure to protect the democratic forces. The parties include Tamil United Liberation Front, Sri Lankan Muslim Congress, Sri Lankan Federal Party, EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front], ENDLF [Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front], and TELO [Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization].

LTTE Denies Involvement

BK0508110490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1026 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Colombo, Aug 5 (AFP)—The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) fighting government troops in Sri Lanka has denied involvement in the massacre of more than 100 Moslems in a township in the east. In a statement released by the group in London and issued here Sunday, the LTTE said it "denies categorically any involvement in the massacre of Moslem civilians at Kathankudy in Batticaloa District."

Colombo has accused the LTTE of carrying out the Friday night massacre, which took place as the Moslems were worshipping at two mosques in Kathankudy, some eight kilometers (five miles) from the town of Batticaloa. The statement said that the massacre "has been meticulously planned and executed and blamed on the LTTE at a time the Sri Lankan Government is trying to purchase weapons from Middle East Moslem countries."

It said, "the LTTE strongly condemns the Government of Sri Lanka for letting loose the armed gangs in the army-controlled Kathankudy area and committing this inhuman and sacrilegious massacre on the innocent Moslem population."

The slayings have also been blamed on the LTTE by the Sri Lanka Moslem Congress (SLMC), a political party whose power base is in the east, and by Tamil parties bitterly opposed to the LTTE. The SLMC has accused the LTTE of killing more than 400 Moslems in the multi-ethnic eastern province since violence between government forces and the guerrillas erupted June 11.

The LTTE has alleged that Moslems have sided with government troops searching for the Tigers in the predominantly Tamil northeast.

Massacre Said Part of Program

BK0508125190 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] During the last 24 hours ending at 1200 yesterday, reports received indicate that LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] terrorists in the Eastern Province have embarked on a desperate program of attacking the Sinhalese and Muslim communities. LTTE terrorists in most instances have discarded their uniforms and attempted to merge with the members of the Sinhalese and Muslim communities. On Friday, when members of the Muslim community had gathered for prayers in the Meera Jumma and Hussaynia mosques in Kattankudi, an area predominantly consisting of Muslims in the Batticaloa District, LTTE terrorist gunmen dressed as Muslim devotees entered these two mosques and shot 97 devotees dead and injured over 71 others. It is reported that these LTTE terrorists made their escape using two boats across the lagoon.

The Special Task Force [STF] continued patrolling and clearing operations in the Pottuvil and Sammanturai areas. In these operations, the STF killed two terrorists on the Lahugala-Pottuvil Road who were attempting to lay land mines. The STF also killed three terrorists in the Sammanturai area attempting to harass the villagers.

In the Northern Province, the security forces are clearing the area about three km north of the Parantan Junction. One soldier was killed by terrorist fire when the security forces destroyed four bunkers and three were injured by antipersonnel mines. Snipers of the security forces killed two LTTE terrorists in the Palali area and one in Mullaitivu.

LTTE Issues 'Ultimatum'

BK0608094690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] In Sri Lanka, 37 people, including two soldiers, have been killed in the fighting between the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] and the security forces during the last 24 hours. In Amparai District of Eastern Province 18 bodies were found yesterday and they were believed to be among the 40 Muslims abducted by the LTTE in Mulikkulam. The Sri Lanka Muslim Congress leader, Mr. M.H. Ashraff, told our Colombo correspondent Gurupaswamy this morning that the LTTE had issued an ultimatum to the Muslims to vacate all Muslim villages on or before the 10th of this month or meet the same fate as those Muslims killed in Kattankudi town on Friday.

33 More Muslims Killed

BK0608163190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] In Sri Lanka, 33 Muslims were shot dead by suspected LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] in Amparai District today. They were attacked in paddy fields while harvesting. The Sri Lankan Muslim Congress leader, Mr. Asharff, told our Colombo correspondent Karupaswamy that about 520 Muslims have been murdered in the northeast since the 11th of June.

The Sri Lankan security forces repulsed another major attack by the Tamil militants on the besieged fort army camp in Northern jaffna town last night.

Meanwhile, two Indian nationals were injured this morning when their boats were intercepted by the Sri Lankan Navy near Kachchaitivu island.

'Propaganda' Linked to Fundraising

BK0708063890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0623 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Colombo, Aug 7 (AFP)—The powerful Tamil rebel group battling government troops for control of Sri Lanka's northeast has alleged that the massacre of more than 100 Moslems was the result of a "diabolic plan" of Colombo. The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said in a statement issued by the group's London office

and released here Tuesday that Colombo "carefully designed a diabolic plan in order to get financial and military assistance from the Arab world."

"The massacre of innocent Moslem civilians was neatly orchestrated and the blame was put on the Liberation Tigers," the statement said. "Effective propaganda was unleashed through media and by government stooges to convince the Moslem countries."

Colombo and the Sri Lanka Moslem Congress (SLMC), a political party which commands popular support in the east, has accused the Tigers of committing the massacre of Moslems who were killed when praying at two mosques in eastern Kathankudy on Friday.

The LTTE statement also said the recent visit of State Minister for Defence Ranjan Wijeratne to "Middle East countries in search of arms" was a failure. "Several countries have refused to provide military assistance to Sri Lanka because of the latter's horrible human rights record," the LTTE said.

Mr. Wijeratne's visits to foreign states during the past fortnight was not officially announced but press reports said he was visiting Arab nations to purchase weapons for Sri Lankan troops fighting the LTTE.

"In order to facilitate the lobby to get arms from oil-rich Arab countries the Sri Lankan Government wanted to convince them that it needed weapons to fight the LTTE who are killing the Moslem brethren," the LTTE said. "The government counted on the assistance of some stooges from the Moslem community to do the propaganda accusing the LTTE," the statement added.

Commenting on the Moslem factor in the current conflict, the LTTE denounced Parliament Speaker M.H. Mohamed of the ruling United National Party and SLMC leader Mohamed Ashraff, both Moslems, for "betraying their own people for selfish reasons." "These so-called leaders of the Moslem community never raised their voice against the oppression unleashed by the government on the Tamil and Moslem population," the statement said.

The LTTE also said the Moslem leaders "did nothing" when the Tamil and Moslem people "were massacred and chased away from their traditional villages."

One third of Sri Lanka's Moslem population of some one million live in the predominantly Tamil northeast, where violence between troops and guerrillas since June 11 has reportedly killed more than 2,600 people. Although Moslems in the east are also Tamil-speaking, they are a separate ethnic group from the minority Tamils who have been demanding greater autonomy in the sprawling northeastern province.

The LTTE accused Colombo of turning "the predominantly Moslem Amparai District (in the east) into a Sinhala district." "More and more Sinhalese are colonised by the government in that district," it said, referring to the majority Sinhalese community in the island.

Ministry Announces Ban Against Killing Dolphins

BK0208130090 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 2 Aug 90

[Text] The Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources says that there is complete ban on killing dolphins under the Whaling Act. A program has been launched to inform fishermen about the necessity of protecting dolphins.